# MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

12 MAY 1982

## Iran-Iraq Conflict

An Iraqi military communique broadcast by Baghdad radio reaffirmed that Iraqi forces completely defeated an Iranian attack north of Khorramshahr early on 11 May and also claimed that Iraqi troops had earlier launched a successful attack in the same region. Altogether the Iranians lost 6,722 dead and 106 tanks, the communique said, while Iraq lost 214 men on 10-11 May and 48 tanks between 5-11 May. Without mentioning Iran's claim to have captured Shalamcheh, INA reported that the Shalamcheh area, which consists of two border posts, is currently to the rear of Iraqi forces and far behind the battlefronts.

A Guards Corps and Armed Forces joint communique carried by Tehran radio claimed that Iranian forces tightened their siege around Iraqi forces in the Khorramshahr region, where the enemy is reinforcing "in a desperate attempt to save himself from certain destruction." Iranian forces advanced up to 5 kilometers from Khorramshahr, it said. The communique admitted that the Iraqis had launched an attack west of Khorramshahr on the night of 10 May but said the Iranians forced the enemy to flee and destroyed eight Iraqi tanks. Five more Iraqi aircraft were shot down on 11 May, according to the communique.

## Autonomy Talks

Before departing Israel for Egypt, U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks Richard Fairbanks said he will return to Israel if he succeeds in making some progress in Cairo regarding the dispute over the venue for the Palestinian autonomy talks, IDF radio reported. Israel has thus far neither accepted nor rejected Fairbanks' proposals, the radio said. "Well-placed" Israeli sources consider that the problem of the venue for the autonomy talks is likely to be solved only when Prime Minister Menahem Begin meets with President Ronald Reagan and Secretary of State Alexander Haig in the United States next month, according to the Jerusalem POST.

Commenting on Israel's insistence that Jerusalem be a venue for the autonomy negotiations, an AL-AHRAM editorial cited by MENA said Israel wants to put obstacles in the way of the discussions. The paper added that by these "distasteful" actions, Israel supplies new fuel for those in the Arab world who believe Israel is not serious about the negotiations.

## Israel

Eytan on Cease-Fire; Radio Comment -- Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan said that following the latest "terrorist" operations, culminating in the recent shelling across the northern border, it is doubtful that the cease-fire still exists, Jerusalem radio reported. Eytan nevertheless assured the inhabitants of settlements along the northern border that no war of attrition in the style of July 1981 would recur.

Reporting on divisions within the Cabinet over Israeli policy toward terrorist attacks, Jerusalem television said the possibility cannot be dismissed that if there is any further escalation on the northern border, there will be no alternative to a confrontation with the "terrorists."

Golan Protest -- Thousands of Druzes opposed to accepting Israeli identity cards demonstrated in the Golan Heights village of 'Ayn Qunyah, Jerusalem radio reported.

## Egypt

Mubarak-Qabus Joint Statement -- President Husni Mubarak and Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id appealed to Iran and Iraq to accept a cease-fire and to seek a peaceful settlement of their existing differences, according to a joint statement by the two leaders broadcast by MENA. In the statement, which was issued at the end of the talks between the Egyptian and Omani leaders, Qabus noted the importance of Egypt's Arab role and its positive effect on the process of joint Arab action.

Egyptian-Israeli Relations -- Egypt and Iraq have resumed direct contacts following preparatory efforts by Sultan Qabus, according to Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, AFP reported.

In a related development, MENA reported that Iraqi Airways has resumed its regular flights between Baghdad and Cairo.

'Ali Speech -- In a speech to several Peoples Assembly committees, reported by MENA, Foreign Minister 'Ali condemned Israeli excesses against the Palestinians and said the escalation of these excesses does not work toward a solution of the Palestinian problem.

## Jordan

Omani Sultan Qabus arrived in Jordan at the invitation of King Husayn on a private visit to last several days, Amman radio reported.

## Lebanon

Tripoli experienced a calm night following 5 days of violent clashes, Beirut radio reported on 12 May. Earlier, the radio noted that the situation had improved considerably after the implementation of a cease-fire. Following a meeting of the supreme coordination committee and the supreme security committee, former Prime Minister Rashid Karami announced the formation of a joint force to supervise the cease-fire, the radio said. According to Karami, the joint force will be formed from the Lebanese internal security forces, all the national parties, the Palestinian resistance and the Syrian deterrent forces.

## Syria-Saudi Arabia

Syrian Chief of Staff Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi paid a short visit to Saudi Arabia, where he delivered a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, SPA reported. According to Jerusalem radio, Syrian sources linked Ash-Shihabi's visit with Syrian preparations for a possible Israeli military action in Lebanon.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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KLIBI ATTACKS ISRAEL'S 'AGGRESSIVE POLICY'

LD111258 Tunis TAP in Arabic 1030 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Tunis, 11 May (TAP) -- Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi made the following statement yesterday:

The new Israeli aggression on peaceful southern Lebanon and Ash-Shuf village [as received] from the sea and air which led to the killing of 11 people and the wounding of dozens of others provides yet another proof of Israel's aggressive policy against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples and constitutes yet another violation of the cease-fire.

Israel's disregard for international law and values has become evident on all levels -- from its atrocities against the Arab people in the West Bank and Gaza who are demanding freedom and the right to self-determination, to the suppression of our brothers in the Golan to the desecration of the holy places and places of worship to the endless series of other Israeli aggressions -- through siege and terrorism because of their rejection of the unlawful annexation of the Golan.

In view of all this, it is time the United States responded to the will of the international community and lifted its absolute protection of Israel and its repeated aggressions. It is time the United States reviewed its policy toward the Middle East and realized that genuine durable peace can only be acheived through a just resolution of the Palestinian problem that gives the Palestinians the right to determine their destiny and set up on independent state in their homeland.

'ARAFAT VISITS JOINT FORCES POSITIONS IN SOUTH

JN112006 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1845 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] today inspected the joint forces positions in the south which included Tyre, Sidon, Az-Zahrani and 'Adlun. Afterward he paid a private visit to 'Ali Mahdi Ibrahim's house in 'Adlun to discuss all aspects of the current situation. The brother leader had earlier presided over a meeting of the commanders of the forces in southern Lebanon which was attended by Fatah Central Committee member brother Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] and Brother Haj Isma'il, commander of the joint forces in the south.

Brother Abu 'Ammar was given a detailed briefing by the brother officers about the preparations in the south in light of increasing Zionist military concentrations and the threats made by the enemy leadership. The brother leader gave instructions to the brother commanders of the units and explained all aspects of the political situation to them.

PALESTINIANS EXPECT WIDE-SCALE ISRAELI ATTACK

NC120744 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0530 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] In a statement to the Lebanese news agency, a responsible military source in the command of the joint forces in southern Lebanon stated that in the face of the enemy's ferocious onslaught, we must exercise responsibility vis-a-vis what the civilians, and not just the military, might be subjected to as a result of this onslaught. Therefore, we have taken a number of precautionary measures to minimize casualties among civilians in southern Lebanon.

These include the cleaning of shelters in the camps, villages and towns and the setting up of civil defense teams aid first and units. Fire fighting units have also been formed to carry out their duty in any situation that may arise.

The responsible source added at this particular stage, we are expecting a wide-scale aggression against southern Lebanon at any moment the Israeli enemy may consider it suitable to launch its aggression. The air raids are only meant to pave the way for this wide-scale operation, particularly following the recent meeting of the Israeli Cabinet, which was a war council meeting. Hence, our responsibility is great at this stage and our combat readiness is high. We are prepared to confront at any moment all the enemy's attempts to escalate the military situation.

VOP: EGYPT MUST RETURN TO ARAB FOLD ON ARAB TERMS

JN112030 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1815 GMT 11 May 82

[Station commentary]

[Excerpts] The word 'if' is a much used Arabic word which we always use in political discussions concerning our Arab problems and the ways to solve these problems. The issue being discussed these days is related to answering a big question which surfaced before April and continues to exist after April. The question is: Will Egypt return to the Arabs in accordance with their just terms or will the Arabs or some of them return to Egypt in accordance with the Camp David terms?

When we severed our relations with As-Sadat's Egypt the point at issue was not the withdrawal from the Sinai; the essential point was the principle of relations with Israel and deviation from the Arab consensus which was defined by the resolutions of the Baghdad and Tunis summit conferences. We do not think this point is no longer valid; we do not think due to the changes in circumstances, this point is no longer a correct basis for dealing with Egypt. Therefore, the condition for resumption of relations with Egypt is still valid, at least with regard to those who honor their signatures on the summit resolutions and their Arab commitments. The view that says the resumption of relations with Egypt must be unanimously agreed to at an Arab summit is closer to reality. It would also be a sound pan-Arab stand provided it is understood that Arab summits do not contradict their previous resolutions which are a manifestation of a responsible Arab understanding of the supreme Arab interest and the minimum pan-Arab commitment to this interest.

Egypt's interest lies with its return to the Arabs within the terms of the supreme pan-Arab interest. The Arabs' interest lies in bringing Egypt back to its vanguard position in the struggle for the sake of the Arab nation and its rights. Nobody has any interest in meeting [with Egypt] half way or in respecting the Camp David provisions or yielding to them. Interests lie in resorting to the Arab summit resolutions as the sole arbiter and working in accordance with them. We are confident that we are not unanimous on surrender. We will be unanimous only on more struggle until every inch of Arab territory is liberated.

FATAH'S KHALAF MEETS LEBANESE NATIONALISTS

JN111604 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in English 1500 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Fatah Central Committee members Abu Iyah [Salah Khalaf] and Abu Salih [Nimr Salih] met today with Lebanese National Movement Secretary General Muhsin Ibrahim and leader of the Independent Nasirite Movement Ibrahim Qulaylat. The meeting was held to discuss measures for ending the clashes in the northern Lebanese Port of Tripoli and ways to confront a possible wide-scale Israeli aggression.

## BAHRAIN

### FOREIGN MINISTER ON EGYPT'S RETURN TO 'ARAB FOLD'

NC081624 Cairo MENA in English 1445 GMT 8 May 82

[Text] Beirut, 8 May (MENA) -- Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak [Al Khalifah] said that the Arabs want Egypt back in the Arab fold.

The Bahraini minister, in an interview with the Lebanese weekly AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DAWLI to be issued next Monday, hailed the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, adding that the withdrawal by Israel from any Arab inch causes happiness. He added that the Arabs will on their part try to narrow the gap with Egypt, while Egypt will try on its part to meet the Arabs along one road. He added that all this removing the gap will happen within days or weeks. He added that Bahrain exerts efforts to bring back Egypt to the Arab fold and it stands with all endeavours made in this respect.

Shaykh Muhammad expressed belief that the Fes summit would be resumed before the end of this year, adding that the Arab situation necessitates holding a meeting at a summit level to close the Arab ranks.

Speaking of the Fahd peace plan, he said that this plan was and will continue to be supported inviting the Arabs who have other ideas to submit them. He added that the Saudi peace plan pushes the Arab issue forward and guarantees the rights of the Palestinian people. He added that the Arabs in order to achieve their targets must stem their differences.

He added that the Gulf countries have endeavoured to stem the Iraq-Iran war, adding that the Iraqi side only was responding to the mediation efforts. He added that they were prodding the Iranian side towards cooperation to reach a just solution acceptable by the two sides.

## KUWAIT

### MINISTER ON RESTORING RELATIONS WITH EGYPT

GF111255 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 10 May 82 pp 1, 22

[Text] Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has said Egyptian President Husni Mubarak is respected by all Arab leaders because of his concern for Arab solidarity.

The minister was answering a question from AL-ANBA' on the current Arab inclination to restore relations with Egypt. He said the cabinet had not discussed this issue in detail although it had touched upon it within the framework of its discussion of the overall Arab situation.

The minister said consultations are underway on this issue with our brothers in GCC countries, because the stand on Egypt was adopted in an Arab summit resolution. The GCC countries act in accordance with Arab summit resolutions, he noted.

Commenting on Egyptian Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah's announcement that Egypt is ready to defend Gulf security and that the security of the Arab Gulf is part of Egypt's security, the minister of state said: I have studied the statement. We hope the day will come when all Arab armies will be prepared and able to repel any foreign invader to confirm their common status within the international community.

AL-WATAN SAYS SAUDI PEACE PLAN TO BE RESUBMITTED

GF111742 Doha QNA in Arabic 1420 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Kuwait, 11 May (QNA) -- According to reliable Arab sources, intensive Arab contacts are underway to again propose the Arab peace plan presented by Saudi Arabia in an effort to end the Israeli-Arab dispute. The sources say these contacts have resulted in putting forward a draft resolution that stresses a collective Arab adoption of this project now that negotiations on so-called Palestinian autonomy have failed.

Quoting these sources, the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-WATAN reports today that Jordan's King Husayn will visit the United States in the near future to hold talks on this issue. The sources linked these contacts with Moroccan Prime Minister Maati Bouabid's recent Gulf tour.

The paper quoted the sources as saying that official visits are being exchanged among Rabat, Riyadh, Khartoum, Oman, Baghdad and Cairo to accelerate the restoration of normal relations with Egypt in preparation for winning its approval of the Arab peace plan.

## SAUDI ARABIA

SYRIAN CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS RIYADH, DEPARTS

LD111214 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 11 May (SPA) -- Syrian Chief of Staff Hikmat ash-Shihabi left Riyadh this afternoon for Damascus at the end of a brief visit to the kingdom lasting few hours.

King Khalid received Hikmat ash-Shihabi at noon today in the presence of Second Deputy Prime Minister and Commander of the National Guard Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and Chief of the Saudi General Staff Gen Muhammad Salih al-Hammad.

The Syrian chief of staff arrives, in Riyadh this morning and was welcomed at the airport by Gen Muhammad Salih al-Hammad, who also saw him off.

PAKISTANI FOREIGN MINISTER DEPARTS RIYADH 11 MAY

LD111956 Riyadh SPA in English 1903 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 11 May (SPA) -- The Pakistani foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, left here today for home at the end of a three-day official visit to Saudi Arabia. During his stay here he met King Khalid and the foreign minister, Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

He discussed with Prince al-Faysal the Middle East situation in the light of Israeli attacks on south Lebanon. Discussions also dealt with the situation in Afghanistan and possible ways of cementing bilateral ties.

KING KHALID RECEIVES KUWAITI ADVISER 11 MAY

LD111808 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1646 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Riyadh, 11 May (SPA) -- His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-Aziz received this evening at his majesty's palace in (Al-Ma'dhar) Mr 'Abd ar-Rahman al-'Atiqi, adviser to the chief of state of Kuwait, who delivered a message to his majesty from His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, amir of the State of Kuwait. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister and commander of the National Guard; His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister, and His Excellency Prof Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs.

YAR

CONTINUATION OF PRIME MINISTER'S INTERVIEW

GF111530 Manama AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 11 May 82 p 4

[Part two of report on interview granted by YAR Prime Minister 'Abd al-Karim al-Iryani to AKHBAR AL-KHALIJ correspondent Hafiz Imam in San'a -- no date given]

[Excerpts] [Question] The war between Iraq and Iran will have repercussions on the region and may result in future reactions. Do you see any hope of stopping the bloodshed through Arab and Islamic mediation?

[Answer] There is still hope for the success of mediation between Iraq and Iran. However, it is clear Iran is totally rejecting mediation. Iraq has been flexible and responsive, and this is commendable. It is Iran that is stubborn, and we regret the war has lasted so long, longer than every sincere Muslim who wishes Muslims and his neighbors all good had expected.

This continuing war will have its negative effects on the region. We heard about the conspiracy that was woven against Bahrain, and we knew Iranian parties were behind it. This poses a threat, probably because there are parties in Iran, and we must admit there are numerous decisionmaking parties in Iran that have ambitions in the region.

We pray that God will unite the Iranian authorities under one leadership that might have one firm decision. Consequently, I am sure wisdom, fraternity, good neighborliness and Islamic spirit will prevail and this will lead to stability in the region.

On the convening of a second Fes summit, Mr al-Iryani expressed his opinion without any political or other reservations. He said: I believe the Arab situation is worse now than when the Fes summit was held. I personally hope a second summit will not be held while we are in such a situation. It is better to take time and wait until true Arab solidarity has been achieved so the tragedy at Fes will not be repeated. I even say that I do not see any encouraging factor on the horizon to call for this summit until the true and comprehensive framework of Arab solidarity has been completed.

[Question] What about the question that is being urgently stated these days concerning Egypt's return to the Arabs and the Arabs' return to Egypt after the withdrawal from Sinai?

[Answer] In fact, the estrangement between Egypt and other Arab countries was decided in a resolution issued by the Baghdad Arab summit. In my view, Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai is important, and no doubt it has returned a piece of land dear to the Egyptian people and to every Arab citizen. However, I do not think the withdrawal in itself fully justifies making a decision that contradicts the Baghdad summit. Nevertheless, the issue of Egypt's return to Arab ranks will remain linked to a collective decision similar to the Baghdad summit resolution. As for us, we cannot do anything that contradicts the Arab summit resolutions. We are committed to these decisions.

In sum, I can say the provisions of the Baghdad summit resolutions will not be changed merely by Israel's withdrawal from the Sinai. Let us scrutinize our current Arab situation and our potential as well as the international situation and the developments around us and look for the best and safest means to resolve the Arab cause, whether through war or peacefully.

AFP: 'ALI SAYS DIRECT CONTACTS RESUMED WITH IRAQ

NC111347 Paris AFP in English 1335 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 11 May (AFP) -- Egypt and Iraq have resumed direct contacts following preparatory efforts by Oman's Sultan Qabus, Egyptian Deputy Prime Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today. Mr 'Ali, who is also foreign minister, made the disclosure upon the departure of Sultan Qabus from Egypt after a four-day official visit. Oman was one of three Arab nations to maintain diplomatic ties with Egypt after the signing of the Camp David accords.

Mr 'Ali reaffirmed that Egypt has been furnishing arms and munitions to the Baghdad regime, embroiled in a 20-month-long war with Iran. He said the aid was in repayment of the assistance received from Iraq during Egypt's October 1973 war with Israel. He warned against a possible excursion by Iranian forces into Iraq, saying "an escalation would be against the interests of all the peoples in the Gulf region."

Mr 'Ali added that Sultan Qabus and President Husni Mubarak had studied the possibility of an Egyptian return to the Arab fold, but added that Cairo did not care to precipitate matters since "we know that each Arab country has its own problems." He said Egypt, nevertheless, remained open to a resumption of relations.

TEXT OF JOINT STATEMENT ON MUBARAK, QABUS TALKS

NC111615 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1450 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 11 May (MENA) -- President Husni Mubarak and Omani Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id have appealed to Iraq and Iran to accept a cease-fire and quickly end the war between them to stanch blood and safeguard lives and funds. A joint statement issued on President Mubarak's talks with Sultan Qabus during his Cairo visit, which ended today, urges Iraq and Iran to seek a settlement of their differences on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty and observance of the two sides' legitimate rights. The statement appeals to all Arab, Islamic and nonaligned states to work for the realization of this aim and the consolidation of the foundations of stability and security in the area.

The joint Egyptian-Omani statement says President Mubarak and Sultan Qabus stressed the need to bolster steps aimed at establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East that would guarantee the liberation of all Arab territories occupied since 1967, enable the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and provide a good and model system for coexistence among the peoples of the area, permitting them to direct their resources to comprehensive economic and social development. The following is the text of the joint statement:

In response to an invitation by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, paid an official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 16 Rajab 1402 Hegira, corresponding to 8 May 1982, until 19 Rajab 1402 Hegira, corresponding to 11 May 1982.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id was accorded a full official and popular reception expressing the feelings of love and pride that the Egyptian people harbor for the fraternal Omani people and reflecting the depth of the fraternal bonds and ties existing among the leaders of the two fraternal countries.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id and President Muhammad Husni Mubarak held intensive discussions which broached various important national and international questions and issues pertaining to the strengthening of the relations of cooperation and solidarity between the two peoples who belong to the one Arab nation. The discussions were held in an atmosphere characterized by the spirit of sincere fraternity, full understanding and mutual keenness on the sublime national interests.

The following participated in the discussions on the Egyptian sides:

1. Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din
2. Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali
3. Education Minister Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi
4. Justice Minister Councillor Ahmad Samir Sami
5. Religious Trusts Minister His Eminence Shaykh Ibrahim ad-Dusuqi Mar'i
6. Secretary General of the Presidency 'Izz ad-Din Mukhtar
7. Foreign Minister First Under Secretary Ambassador Usamah al-Baz
8. The ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt to Muscat, Muhammad Sa'id ad-Dasuqi

The Omani side was represented by the following:

1. Deputy Prime Minister for Legal Affairs His Highness Fahd ibn Mahmud Al Bu Sa'id
2. Royal Diwan Affairs Minister His Excellency Hamad ibn Hamud Al Bu Sa'id
3. Health Minister His Excellency Dr Mubarak al-Khadduri
4. Education Minister His Excellency Yahya Mahfuz al-Mundhuri
5. Information and Youth Affairs Minister His Excellency 'Abd al-'Aziz ar-Rawwas
6. Minister of State for Foreign Affairs His Excellency Yusuf al-'Alawi Abdallah
7. Adviser to his majesty the sultan for Religious and Historical Affairs His Excellency Muhammad ibn Ahmad
8. Adviser to his majesty the sultan His Excellency Dr 'Umar az-Zawawi
9. The ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman in Cairo, His Excellency 'Abdallah Ahmad al-Ghazali
10. The first aide of his majesty the sultan and chief of the Palace Office, His Excellency 'Ali Majid al-Masri

At the outset of the meeting, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id congratulated his brother President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and the people of the Arab Republic of Egypt on recovering the Sinai Peninsula after 15 years of occupation, during which the Egyptian people made great sacrifices for the sake of regaining the legitimate Arab rights and supporting the struggle of the fraternal Palestinian people until the struggle of the Arab people in Egypt was crowned with the complete liberation of the national soil and the raising of the Egyptian flag on all parts of the Arab Sinai.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak expressed Egypt's extreme appreciation of the great principled role that the Sultanate of Oman is playing in defending the Arab issue and supporting Egypt's efforts in all phases of the struggle for the liberation of the Arab territory and for defending the sanctuaries of our glorious nation and preserving its legitimate rights.

Two countries' leaders emphasized the need for bolstering steps aimed at establishing the a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East ensuring the liberation of all Arab territories occupied since 1967, enabling the Palestinian people to exercise their right to self-determination and establishing a good mode of coexistence among the region's peoples that will enable them to dedicate their efforts to comprehensive economic and social development.

The two leaders reviewed the situation in the Gulf area. They expressed their anxiety about the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian war that is squandering the human and material resources of two fraternal Muslim peoples in dire need to utilize these resources for prosperity and progress. On this basis, the two leaders appealed to Iran and Iraq to accept a cease-fire and end the war quickly to stanch blood and safeguard lives and funds and to seek to achieve a peaceful settlement of the existing differences on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, observance of the legitimate rights of the two sides and noninterference in internal affairs.

They appealed to all Arab and Islamic states and nonaligned states to work toward this objective and to consolidate the pillars of stability and security in the area to safeguard the vital interests of its peoples and enable them to play their role on the international level.

President Muhammad Husni Mubarak affirmed the support of the Arab Republic of Egypt for the positive role the GCC is playing in preserving the security and stability of the area and in developing their capabilities in the service of their peoples. In this respect, President Mubarak lauded the wise policy the government of His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id is pursuing vis-a-vis the schemes to which the area is being subjected.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id, sultan of Oman, pointed to the importance of Egypt's Arab role and its positive effect on the process of joint Arab action to preserve the interests of the Arab nation. The two leaders decided their two governments will continue close contact in this regard. The two leaders also emphasized their two countries' support for the African peoples' rights to maintain their independence and defend their sovereignty against foreign interference in their internal affairs. They expressed their hope the African states' solidarity will continue and the OAU's course will be preserved.

The two leaders called for strengthening the Nonaligned Movement and for ridding it of the pressures and interferences to which it is being subjected and which harm its cohesion and unity, so the movement will be able to play its prominent role in the contemporary international community.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus and His Excellency President Mubarak expressed their satisfaction with the level of fraternal cooperation reached in relations between the two fraternal countries. They agreed to continue their consultations and coordination to safeguard and achieve the interests of the glorious Arab nation and the two fraternal peoples.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id expressed his gratitude and appreciation for the hospitality and respect accorded his majesty and the delegation accompanying him.

ASH-SHA'B INTERVIEWS MUBARAK ON POLICIES

NC110001 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2308 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 10 May (MENA) -- President Muhammad Husni Mubarak emphasized Egypt opens its arms to the brother Arabs and welcomes their return but it leaves it to them to decide the time to do so, because this matter concerns them.

In the first interview he has given to an opposition paper, namely ASH-SHA'B, the organ of the Socialist Labor Party, President Mubarak said he cannot go to an Arab summit conference if there is no common ground and if there are no diplomatic relations between Egypt and these [Arab] states.

Concerning his attendance at the nonaligned summit conference in Baghdad and the African summit in Tripoli, President Mubarak reaffirmed the same logic -- that he will not go to a state which has no diplomatic representation with Egypt. He also reaffirmed the need for the presence of a common ground.

Regarding the stand on the PLO, President Mubarak pointed out in his interview with ASH-SHA'B, which it publishes in Tuesday's edition, that there is nothing between Egypt and the PLO but that he is sad because it follows any line and any direction. He said he prefers to remain quiet concerning the PLO and the Arab states that offend Egypt in order not to embarrass anybody.

In his interview with ASH-SHA'B, President Husni Mubarak reaffirmed that the key to the comprehensive peace is the solution of the Palestinian problem. Therefore, Egypt will continue the autonomy negotiations until it achieves a comprehensive peace in the region.

His excellency explained that a solution requires mutual recognition and sitting together around one table to hold discussions. In this regard, the president referred to the differences in the views of Egypt and Israel on the question of autonomy and pointed out the negotiations are continuing to reach agreement on the basic principles of autonomy.

On the Tabah question, the president expected the problem to be solved in 2 or 3 months at most. President Mubarak reiterated Egypt's readiness to help any Arab state exposed to danger if it asks for such help and said there will be no interference in the domestic affairs of other states.

President Mubarak explained the diplomatic relations between Egypt and Israel are like the relations with any other state in the world and they are not special relations. He emphasized Egypt's relations with the Arabs will not be at the expense of its relations with Israel and Egypt's relations with Israel will not be at the expense of Egypt's role in Arab solidarity or its role in Arab development and economic integration.

On Prince Fahd's plan and alternative plans, President Mubarak explained any plan which Israel does not approve will not materialize and that a plan must be accepted by all parties. He stressed in this regard the "only document in our hands" is the Camp David accord. The president pointed out the Knesset, which approved the annexation of the Golan, can agree to its return [to Syria] through negotiations and discussions between Israel and Syria. He hoped the October war would be the last war, stressing peaceful coexistence is possible through trust, respect, honoring legitimate rights, noninterference in the affairs of others and the recognition of legitimate rights.

In his interview with ASH-SHA'B, President Mubarak dealt with a number of topics on the home front. He stressed his main concern during his term will be the laying of a basis to be followed to solve the housing, foodstuff and communications problems.

The president expressed his conviction the term of office could be renewed once only and the constitutional provision in this regard must be amended, but not now. President Mubarak stressed whenever there is a reason to change a person, we will do so but without jeopardizing stability.

President Mubarak affirmed the process of releasing the persons in custody is continuing saying: It is not in our interest to imprison anyone and anyone who has nothing against him will get out quickly. The president said he will belong to all and not to one party but not the others. I will be always like that, he added.

U.S. SPECIAL ENVOY FAIRBANKS ARRIVES 11 MAY

NC112102 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2043 GMT 11 May 82

[Excerpts] Cairo, 11 May (MENA) -- U.S. envoy to the autonomy discussions Richard Fairbanks arrived in Cairo from Israel tonight for a 3-day visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt during which he will meet with some officials.

Fairbanks was welcomed on arrival by Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Ambassador ash-Shafi'i 'Abd al-Majid and U.S. ambassador in Cairo Alfred Atherton.

Radio Views Fairbanks' Task

NC112032 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] U.S. envoy Richard Fairbanks' task in the Middle East region comes within the framework of U.S. efforts to revive the autonomy talks between Egypt and Israel -- the negotiations that have been fumbling ever since they began 3 years ago and that are now threatened with complete stoppage because of Israel's insistence on holding the talks in Jerusalem and Egypt's rejection of this Israeli condition.

Fairbanks arrived in Israel the day before yesterday at the outset of his visit to the area. He will come to Cairo tomorrow to brief Egyptian officials on the results of his talks in Israel. It is worth noting Fairbanks is not bringing with him specific proposals for the resumption of the talks on autonomy for the Palestinians in Gaza and the West Bank. However, he will try to bring the Egyptian and Israeli views closer, especially on this new obstacle Israel is raising in the way of the talks.

Since the autonomy talks between Egypt and Israel started in Beersheba on 15 May 1979, some 10 rounds of discussions have been held amid a vast difference of views between the two sides on the concept of autonomy and the establishment of a Palestinian state. Egypt and Israel continue to differ on this subject. Egypt demands the Israeli military government in the West Bank and Gaza be replaced by a Palestinian government at the end of the transitional period; the building of Israeli settlements be halted because they are illegal; the Palestinian problem in its entirety be resolved; including the refugees problem and not only the problem of the inhabitants of the occupied Arab territories; withdrawal be effected from all these territories, including Arab Jerusalem, in accordance with Security Council Resolution 242 and human rights be respected. Israel absolutely rejects the establishment of an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza and says autonomy must be for the inhabitants and not for the land. The United States believes peace in the Middle East hinges on the success of the autonomy talks and the implementation of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty in word and spirit and the solution of all aspects of the Palestinian problem is regarded as one of the most important points contained in the Camp David agreement.

TABAH TALKS TO BE RESUMED IN ISMAILIA 17 MAY

NC111636 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1605 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 11 May (MENA) -- The Egyptian and Israeli sides will resume their meetings on the level of liaison officers, experts, technicians and jurists in the city of Ismailia on 17 and 18 May to resume discussion of issues connected with the Tabah problem in accordance with the agreement Egypt and Israel signed on 26 April. The Egyptian side to these meetings will be headed by Rear Adm Muhsin Hamdi and the Israeli side by General Siyon. During these meetings, the preparation of the paper on the temporary security arrangements in the Tabah area during the period of resolving the disagreement and on the way the multinational force will discharge its responsibilities in this regard in accordance with the provisions of the 26 April agreement will be continued.

AL-JUMHURIYAH DEMANDS END TO FIGHTING IN LEBANON

NC102258 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2235 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] Cairo, 10 May (MENA) -- AL-JUMHURIYAH demands a halt to the fighting in Lebanon and says it is necessary the Lebanese agree on a minimum limit of unity among themselves as a first step toward restoring Lebanon to its previous state of affairs.

In an editorial in Tuesday's edition, the paper stresses certain parties find it in their interest to keep the Lebanese situation permanently inflamed. The paper points out the main feature of what has been happening in Lebanon for a long time is keeping all of it in the crater of an erupting volcano. AL-JUMHURIYAH says: Israel does not conceal its ambitions in Lebanon, resorting to such excuses as stopping what it terms Palestinian attacks, cutting down to size the Syrian presence in Lebanon and retaliation, for example, for the assassination of an Israeli diplomat in Paris, an incident whose responsibility the resistance has categorically denied.

In conclusion, the paper says: If there are other parties considering it in their interests to keep the situation inflamed in Lebanon, then these parties are truly serving the Israeli aims there.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 707

JN111720 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1620 GMT 11 May 82

[Communique No 707 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 11 May 1982]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. It is not ye who slew them; it was God; when thou threwest [a handful of dust], it was not thy act, but God's. [Koranic verse]. History, which has recorded the deeds of our great ancestors who waged battles of right and principles against the forces of evil and aggression, will record with gold letters the heroism of their grandchildren in great Iraq who are waging one battle after another against the regime of tyranny and aggression in Iran, inflicting on it defeat and destruction and foiling its sick dreams and evil intentions against our homeland and people. The results for last night and today are as follows:

1. At dawn today, the enemy attempted to confront our brave units north of Al-Muhammarah [Khorramshahr] using infantry and armor. Our units confronted the enemy forces and clashed with them in a fierce battle in which all kinds of arms and weapons were used. The battle lasted until 0600 today. The enemy attempt was completely foiled; its forces were destroyed and heavy losses were inflicted on them. Known enemy losses that were visible and countable were: 4,075 dead, whose bodies were left behind on the battlefield; large numbers of wounded and captured; and the destruction of 68 tanks, 5 armored troop carriers, 9 vehicles, 2 excavators, 1 helicopter, 1 tubular launcher and 1 gun. Our forces also seized a large quantity of serviceable weapons and equipment.

2. Last night, our brave units attacked enemy forces north of Al-Muhammarah and engaged them in a fierce battle with various weapons. During this battle, the enemy lost 2,647 dead, a large number of wounded and captured; and 14 tanks, 26 vehicles and 1 rocket launcher destroyed.

3. Our daring air force pilots continued to control the skies of the battlefield all day today. They carried out fierce raids against the enemy's tanks, armor and troop concentrations in the area west of the Karun River, scoring direct hits and inflicting very heavy losses on the enemy. All our planes returned safely to base. Our air force carried out 154 missions today.

4. Our daring helicopters attacked enemy positons and units in the area west of the Karun River and north of Al-Muhammarah area all day today, scoring precise hits and inflicting on them heavy losses in men and equipment. Known losses amount to 24 tanks, 3 armored troops carriers, 4 vehicles, 14 infantry positions and 1 gun. There were 52 helicopter combat missions today. All our helicopters returned safely to base.

Thus, total known enemy losses amount to 6,722 dead, a great number of wounded and captured; the destruction of 106 tanks, 8 armored troop carriers, 39 vehicles, 2 guns, 1 tubular launcher, 2 excavators, 1 helicopter, 1 rocket launcher; and the capture of a great amount of serviceable weapons and equipment. [14 infantry positions not repeated]

5. Our sacrifices:

A. In personnel: 214 martyrs for 10 and 11 May 1982.
B. In equipment: 48 tanks, 20 armored troop carriers and 17 vehicles were damaged during the period from 5 May until today.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 11 May 1982

OMAN'S SULTAN QABUS ARRIVES IN AMMAN 11 MAY

JN111300 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id of Oman has arrived in Jordan on a private visit that will last several days at the invitation of His Majesty King Husayn. Receiving his majesty at the airport were His Majesty King Husayn and several members of the royal Hashemite family.

AT-TALHUNI RECEIVES BULGARIA'S TODOROV 9 MAY

JN091600 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1446 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] Amman, 9 May (PETRA) -- The Jordanian side headed by Senate President Bahjat at-Talhuni and the Bulgarian side headed by Stanko Todorov, chairman of the Bulgarian National Assembly, met today at the senate buidling. At-Talhuni welcomed the chairman and members of the Bulgarian parliamentary delegation and praised the stand of the Bulgarian people on the Palestinian cause in particular and the Arab causes in general.

At-Talhuni said unity between the east and West Banks was accomplished at the request of the West Bank people in 1950 and continued until the convening of the Rabat Arab summit conference [in 1974], when Jordan agreed with the unanimous decision of the Arab countries that the PLO is the sole representative of the Palestinian people. At-Talhuni then presented the head and members of the delegation with copies of the Jordanian Constitution in Arabic and English.

Stanko Todorov, head of the Bulgarian delegation, thanked the Senate for inviting him to Jordan and said: We are happy to have the opportunity of becoming acquainted with Jordan's great advancement. He added: We are fully convinced the repeated exchange of visits between Jordan and Bulgaria will contribute to bolstering bilateral relations in all fields. In his speech, Todorov asserted his country's support for all Arab causes in international meetings and conferences. He indicated that Bulgaria and the socialist bloc countries stand by Jordan and other Arab countries against Zionism.

Todorov asserted his country's stand on a peaceful settlement in the region and its support for the struggling peoples in achieving their rights. At the conclusion of the meeting, the head of the delegation presented At-Talhuni and members of the Senate with souvenirs. The meeting was attended by members of the Senate, the secretary general of the National Consultative Council and the Bulgarian ambassador in Amman.

'TEXT' OF NOTE TO UN ON ISRAELI 'AGGRESSION'

NC111400 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Following is the text of the Lebanese note to the UN Security Council president that was delivered by the Lebanese charge d'affaires in New York, Ambassador Fakhri Sariyah:

Your Excellency, at the instructions of my government and further to our letter contained in Document No 14989, I am honored to urgently communicate to you the news of the new Israeli aggression against Lebanon. On Sunday, 9 May 1982, between 1600 and 1730, Israeli aircraft raided the following areas: Ad-Dalhamiyah, Ad-Dubbiyah, Dahr al-Magharah, Duhur as-Sa'diyat, Az-Zahrani, (Sfahta) road, As-Sarafand hills, Al-Ghaziyah, Maghdushah, (Ad-Dun), An-Najjariyah and Ad-Dawudiyah. According to preliminary reports, 11 people were killed and 37 others were wounded and heavy damage was caused to property.

On 22 April 1982, the Security Council issued a statement urgently calling for an end to all military attacks and violations which undermine the cease-fire in effect since 24 July 1981 in compliance with Resolution No 490 issued on 21 July 1981.

This unjustified aggression threatens international peace and security in the Middle East and hampers the full implementation of Resolution No 425, issued in 1981, and the subsequent resolutions, particularly Resolution No 501 issued in 1982.

I have been instructed by my government to urgently communicate the matter to you, hoping that appropriate measures will be taken to put an immediate end to the repeated Israeli incursions and threats to violate Lebanese sovereignty and Security Council resolutions as well as the armistice agreement of 1949, which is confirmed by these resolutions.

Should the situation further deteriorate, my government reserves the right to propose the adoption of urgent measures in implementation of the provisions of the UN Charter.

MINISTERS, 'ARAFAT DISCUSS SITUATION IN SOUTH

NC112224 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] A meeting was held tonight between PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and [Tourism and Finance] Ministers Marwan Hamadah and 'Ali al-Khalil in the presence of Salah Khalaf. The situation in the south was discussed in the light of the recent Israeli aggression and concentrations.

The Lebanese-Palestinian consultations will continue on all levels in the next 48 hours to consider precautions against all eventualities.

Today's meeting was in the framework of the moves by the government to narrow the area of tension in the south. The first meeting was held between Minister Marwan Hamadah and Salah Khalaf yesterday morning. Ministers 'Ali al-Khalil and Marwan Hamadah visited Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan before meeting with 'Arafat.

NATIONALIST MOVEMENT ADOPTS MEASURES IN SOUTH

JN111914 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1745 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Brother Mustafa Sa'd, secretary of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement Joint Command in the south, asserted that the Nationalist Movement has adopted several measures to confront the possibility of a large-scale Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon. He added that these measures covered all southern regions on the political, military and social levels.

Mustafa Sa'd added: The state of alert among the joint forces has attained a great level of responsibility. He said the current phase makes it incumbent upon us to fully execute our duties and confront any Israeli escalation and the deep-rooted Zionist movement's ambitions in the south.

LEADERS DISCUSS TRIPOLI; SARKIS CONTACTS AL-ASAD

NC111952 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] At 1800 [1600 GMT ] today, President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan during which they reviewed the security developments in Tripoli and the south and ways of ending this attrition in the homeland.

Following the meeting, the prime minister was asked what took place at this special meeting. He said: This was not a special meeting. We are holding continuous meetings to follow up the successive events taking place in our arena, both in the south and the north. Indeed, the situation in the north, or more precisely in Tripoli, received all our attention at this meeting. The information we receive increases our anxiety. The successive contacts we have been holding since this morning have not completely reassured us so that we may sleep with our minds at ease. We will not feel at ease if our people everywhere do not feel at ease.

The prime minister added: During my meeting with his excellencey the president, I learned that he has held a long contact with His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad and referred to the need for useful cooperation to control the conditions in Tripoli and participate in the current efforts to put an end to the current explosive deterioration. We hope our efforts and contacts, particularly after the contact with His Excellency President al-Asad, will be crowned with a success which would restore stability and quiet to the city and reassure all of us.

The prime minister was asked: In the light of the contact with President al-Asad, are there specific measures to restore quiet in Tripoli? He answered: These contacts, which his excellency the president crowned today when he contacted President al-Asad, must bear fruit. We must wait for this.

CEASE-FIRE SET IN TRIPOLI; JOINT FORCE DEPLOYED

NC112029 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The current contacts succeeded this evening in halting the deterioration in the city of Tripoli. The fighting stopped at 1900 [1700 GMT] and the joint force took up positions at seven points in the areas of Bab at-Tabbanah, Ba'l Muhsin and Al-Qubbah. This force is currently supervising the implementation of the cease-fire.

The meeting which the Supreme Coordination Committee and the Security Committee held in the house of former Prime Minister Rashid Karami [in Tripoli] ended at 2015. Following this meeting, former Prime Minister Karami said: The fact is that the adoption of the decisions, particularly those pertaining to the joint force and its deployment to implement the tasks assigned to it, has taken longer than scheduled. However, this force has now taken up its positions and is implementing what has been assigned to it. You will notice that the situation on the ground has improved considerably. We have decided to increase the strength of this force so it can carry out its duties fully. We are very hopeful the cease-fire will be consolidated with everyone's cooperation.

## Situation Erupts; Leaders Meet

NC120937 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0915 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] At 1055 [0855 GMT] today the situation erupted in Tripoli and the warring sides are using various types of arms. An earlier report indicated that there were artillery and rocket exchanges at about 0900 between the warring sides in the Bab at-Tabbanah and Ba'l Muhsin areas followed by sniper fire between Bab at-Tabbanah, al-Mallulah and Abu 'Ali circle.

Meanwhile, the coordination committee is meeting in the residence of Rashid Karami to contain the deteriorating situation and to put an end to the fighting in Tripoli.

Another meeting was held at 0830 in Al-Ifta' house attended by Mufti Shaykh Khalid, Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan, former Prime Ministers Sa'ib Salam, Salim al-Huss, Taqi ad-Din as-Sulh and Rashid as-Sulh. During the meeting Mufti Khalid contacted Rashid Karami while Al-Wazzan contacted Director General of Public Security Staff Maj Gen Ahmad al-Haj.

## Syrian Reinforcements Arrive

NC121101 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] A special dispatch to Voice of Lebanon indicates that 400 members of Al-Fursan al'Arab left the Al-Biqa' area yesterday and have arrived in Tripoli via Al-Arz to reinforce the Syrian forces there. It has been observed that these men are equipped with military vehicles and tanks.

The Syrian reinforcement came before the situation flared up at about 1100 [0900 GMT] today, particularly between Ba'l Muhsin and Bab at-Tabbanah areas and in Al-Mallulah and Abu 'Ali circle. The situation was contained shortly afterward but sniper fire continued.

## Clashes Stop

NC121220 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Our correspondent in Tripoli reported a short while ago that the clashes in the city have stopped a short time ago, but some sporadic explosions are heard from time to time.

## BOMB EXPLODES OUTSIDE IRAQI AIRWAYS OFFICE

NC121207 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] We have just learned that an explosion took place a short while ago in the Ar-Rawshah area [in western Beirut]. Security sources said that, according to preliminary reports, it was directed at the Iraqi Airways offices. A security forces patrol proceeded to the scene of the incident.

HAFIZ AL-ASAD INTERVIEWED BY AL-MUSTAQBAL

JN081130 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0630 GMT 8 May 82

["Text" of President Hafiz al-Asad's 1 May interview with AL-MUSTAQBAL magazine to be published in the magazine's 8 May issue -- place not given]

[Text] Question: There is talk in Egypt and in some Arab countries about the return of Egypt to the Arabs and the return of the Arabs to Egypt. A ranking Egyptian official has told AL-MUSTAQBAL in its latest issue that after the Israeli withdrawal from the Sinai, Egypt can become the mediator between the Arabs and Israel instead of Washington and Moscow. This talk is very serious. The same Egyptian official has also stated that Mubarak's Egypt is different than As-Sadat's Egypt, substantiating his claim by the fact that Mubarak's Egypt has adopted and will adopt steps to restore relations wtih the Arabs, that it has closed down the so-called Islamic Peoples League and that Mubarak has refused to visit Jerusalem. What is your Excellency's opinion about this talk on Egypt's return to the Arab countries and vice versa?

Answer: In reality, Egypt is a beloved part of our nation. We wish this beloved part would return to us so it can assume its natural role among the sons of our nation. As this beloved part's ostracism had its factors and conditions, so too would its return have its factors and conditions. When Egypt removed itself, it did so because of the Camp David accords. When Egypt returns, the Camp David accords must inevitably collapse. I have repeatedly expressed my opinion on this matter. I said we welcome, nay that we seek to have Egypt return to us and that we will return to it provided that this Egypt, to which we will return and which will return to us, will be an Egypt free of any restrictions imposed by the Camp David accords, because it was a free Egypt that assumed its vanguard role in our Arab nation. We want Egypt to resume this vanguard role. That's why we stress that the liberation of Egypt from the Camp David restrictions is an objective factor, which must inevitably take place, to enable us to stand in the same trench, that of the Arab nation.

This has also been stated by other Arab brothers. In any case, such a return needs a summit resolution. Any resolution, whether it is taken by an individual or a nation, must have its justifications.

Question: It is very well known that it was Your Excellency's absence that foiled the Fes summit conference. After what we have heard from you now, are there new developments in the Arab arena that call for convening another summit? In other words, does Syria intend to call for a summit?

Answer: As you know, an Arab summit conference must be held annually in accordance with a resolution we adopted at summit level, regardless of whether we have topics to discuss or in case new developments emerge. On this basis, an Arab summit must be held this year.

Question: It is customary for the Arabs not to follow this procedure unless an Arab state calls a summit conference.

Answer: Actually, since the adoption of that decision, the summit conference has been meeting annually. Although we sometimes held different views on the venue, method or agenda of summit conferences -- and such differences may have affected the outcome of these conferences in the past -- the summit conference was still held annually. I believe, therefore, a conference will be held this year. Our hope is that, not only this conference, but every conference will achieve more success than the previous one. We in Syria emphasize the importance of holding periodic Arab summit conferences.

Question: Do we understand from this that Syria will go to Fes on the basis that it is the venue of the periodic summit conference this year?

Answer: Actually, we have not discussed this matter, and no one has raised it with us yet. I do not think this is the main concern of the Arab governments or leaders at present. However, when the issue is raised, the venue will not be a problem.

Question: Will Syria go, if invited?

Answer: We did not boycott the previous summit conference, and we do not intend to boycott the subsequent summit conferences. There is no justification for such a boycott. We support summit conferences, because we believe they are beneficial to all countries of the Arab nation. We attended the Fes summit conference like all our Arab brothers. As for the level of representation, it depends on several circumstances. The circumstances of the country and various other factors determine the level of representation. At any rate, in my opinion, whoever attends the conference represents his country. Whoever attends the conference, goes on the basis of a decision and an authorization. I recall that during the 1974 summit conference in Rabat, some of the countries were represented by their ambassadors. There is no summit decision providing that countries must only be represented by the head of state or his deputy. This was proposed by some of our Arab brothers during the Amman summit conference. The proof was that Syria was not the only country to be represented at a level below the head of state or his deputy. Several Arab countries were represented at an even lower level. I repeat, the question is not one of the level of representation, but of the powers given to the one attending the conference. The Syrian representative at the Fes summit conference had all the necessary powers for his task at that conference. Had I attended, my opinion would not have differed from that of the Syrian representative. At any rate, my answer is that we will attend any conference held.

Question: Regarding Egypt's return to the Arab fold, can we determine what is requested of Egypt so it can rid itself of the Camp David circumstances and whatever is related to Camp David? Is Cairo requested to simply declare its withdrawal from Camp David, or withdraw and expel the Israeli ambassador as well?

Answer: Actually, the question here is not one of proposing a formula or procedure to Egypt. The question is one of substance. We are in a state of war with Israel, and Egypt is in what they term as state of peace with Israel. We believe this state has imposed certain restrictions on Egypt. For Egypt to reoccupy its natural place in the Arab homeland, it must get rid of the restrictions imposed by the Camp David accords. The discussion of how Egypt can get rid of them is premature, especially since even now the Egyptian leaders stress their commitment to the Camp David accords. The course, method or procedure that must be pursued to get rid of the Camp David restrictions is easy to find. However, it is useless to talk about it or discuss it now. The main thing is that it is inconceivable for Egypt to be with us and Israel at the same time. Egypt is an Arab country. As a matter of fact, it is in the vanguard of the Arab countries. Therefore, how can we accept a situation where Egypt is embracing Israel while the Arabs are in a state of war with it.

Question: Since he is already involved, do you believe President Mubarak may not be able to do anything?

Answer: I believe that if he wants, nothing whatsoever can stop him. It all depends on his wish and the wish of the Egyptian people. Otherwise, it would mean that Egypt has been colonized forever, and this would be a major problem. Therefore, we say that what we have is not a state of peace, but a state of imposing restrictions on Egypt. I have previously said that Egypt has not regained the Sinai. What has happened is that Israel's cordon around the Sinai has now been lifted and placed around the whole of Egypt. We want our Egyptian people to eliminate this cordon.

Question: You are known to give priority to Arab unity. Moreover, unity is the first slogan of the Ba'th Party. How do you view the unity atmosphere in the Arab world today. Has this atmosphere affected your unity convictions?

Answer: Certainly not. Unity is one thing and transient political circumstances are something else. Unity is the return of the Arab nation to its origin and natural place. We believe the unity of our people and nation is the normal thing and division is the exception. The Frenchman cannot imagine his nation divided into several states. If this were true, we would have fought to eliminate the division and restore national unity. We Arabs must also understand the historical fact that the present situation is an abnormal one imposed on us by imperialism under certain historical circumstances. To be able to build our future and achieve our aspirations and personal fulfillment, we must return to our origin and unite our nation. We are aware of the internal and external hardships preventing the achievement of unity. However, unity is the major issue; and when have major issues triumphed without sacrifices and losses? There is no doubt about our commitment to unity.

Question: Since the Benghazi declaration on unity between Syria and the Libyan Jamahiriyah and the meetings held by the various high-level committees and the statements issued by them, what is the current status of unity between the two countries?

Answer: We still adhere to the decisions we made both in Syria and Libya. Actually, several meetings were held by the joint committees and the popular organizations and party forces in Syria on the one hand and the people's congresses in Libya on the other. When we meet, we always discuss our shortcomings and stress the need to give the necessary push to unity, taking into consideration, of course, the difficult circumstances we are experiencing in Syria and Libya and the plotting we are being exposed to and that is taking up much of our time and effort in both countries. However, we in Syria are responding fully to the unity issue with Libya. Our brothers there also assure us that they are responding and are determined to achieve unity.

Question: Mr President, Washington undoubtedly has a major role now in the Middle East crisis; perhaps even slightly larger than the Soviet role. Is the policy of U.S. President Reagan proceeding toward what Syria considers the desired role? Why is it that no high-level Syrian-U.S. dialogue has taken place so far to explain what is required of the United States and what is required of the Arabs?

Answer: The United States knows what is required of it, and we know what is required of the United States. Absolute bias toward Israel and growing U.S. military, economic and political aid to Israel, which in terms of declared figures amounts to $3 billion annually, conflicts with the role the United States must play in this region in its capacity as a major power and a permanent member of the UN Security Council with special responsibility toward the issue of international peace. To harmonize with its role in the region, the United States must change this situation. It must stop its bias toward Israel. It must also stop supplying Israel with weapons, which it used to occupy our territories and expel our compatriots, as is happening now. Were it not for the U.S. aid I referred to, Israel would not have been able to defy the wish of the entire international community, to occupy our territories and to expel large numbers of Arab citizens all these years. We stressed these points in our meetings and talks with a number of U.S. officials we met with in the past years. The facts have not changed. This fact has adversely affected our relations with the United States. This fact has rendered the U.S. role ineffective. Consequently, this fact will not help achieve peace in the region. The Camp David accords, which have been in existence for some years now, are proof of this.

Question: Why hasn't there been a summit meeting with the United States? We previously published a report leaked to us about a meeting being planned in Geneva between Your Excellency and President Reagan. Summit meetings are of special significance. see Do you any benefit in a summit meeting between you and President Reagan to explain the question to the American public through the .S. President, or do you object to that?

Answer: First of all, I read this report in your magazine. No one else has informed me of such a meeting. At any rate, it is difficult to discuss a meeting in the absence of the person concerned or his opinion.

Question: Why don't you go to the Congress?

Answer: Why should I go?

Question: In order to make the Americans understand the erronesous stand of their country. Dialogue benefits both parties.

Answer: They have sent several congressmen to the region. I have met with some of them. I imagine the members of Congress now have an idea about the situation in the region, particularly since they are the ones who decide matters in the United States. They are the ones who decide on weapons deals and other matters. I do not believe they need a lecture by an Arab official on the situation in the Middle East to enable them to seek the right solution despite the fact that any lecture can be beneficial even if it only increases knowledge about an issue. However, they have facts before them that could enable them to make decisions. We Arabs, wish these decisions would conform with justice. We believe that what is in harmony with just solutions in this region will be in harmony with U.S. interests.

Question: Allow me to assume the role of devil's advocate. The Americans say they are serving the cause of peace in the Middle East. As evidence they produce the fact that they have succeeded in establishing a state of peace between the largest Arab country and Israel. This is their logic. If we proceed from the fact that the interest of the United States dictate the U.S. role, then, according to them, their interests are guaranteed and nothing can disturb them. Any neutral observer can see the Arabs now have only two choices: either to effectively and really struggle against U.S. interests in the Middle East or work to become close to the United States. In Your Excellency's opinion, why don't the Arabs adopt one of these two choices, and why do they leave the United States in a comfortable position?

Answer: When the Americans talk about a peace they established between Egypt and Israel as evidence of the soundness of their policy in the Middle East, they judge this from a very narrow viewpoint, which we call a purely Israeli viewpoint. We can quickly and immediately say they created a state of calm between Egypt and Israel. In exchange for this, they created several states of tension and war in the region as a result of this policy or as a result of what they had done. They consider this as a success for their peace policy in the region, because they view the issue with an Israeli eye and not from the angle of a comprehensive peace in the region.

If they had created comprehensive peace in the region without replacing the tension between Egypt and Israel with one that is more comprehensive, complicated and diversified, then it would have been possible for them to say that their policy in the region had succeeded. What happened, however, was different. That's why we say the United States has no U.S. policy in the region but that there is an Israeli policy that the United States is implementing in the region. In any case, as I mentioned in a previous interview, time is not on the U.S. side. Major events such as this one cannot be evaluated on the basis of a definite period of time. Despite this, if we evaluate this definite period of time, we can see that matters are not proceeding in favor of U.S. interests.

I believe the upshot of all that has taken place in the region will not be in the U.S. interest. What is taking place here and there is not in the U.S. interest. Some may think that some are growing closer to the United States than before. However, this course has sharp bends. What is important is what the people think and in which direction they are proceeding. We cannot imagine that those Arabs, who are daily witnessing a U.S. stand hostile to their interests and aspirations,will continue to offer services to U.S. interests. I do not believe this.

Question: It has been reported in the West that Soviet-Syrian relations have somehow retreated and that the Soviet Union has made some negative remarks about Syria's stand toward Moscow and the Syrian Communist Party. It has also been said that from Moscow's viewpoint, this retreat in Syrian-Soviet relations has taken place at the expense of a Syrian-U.S. rapprochement. Will Your Excellency describe Syria's relations with Moscow? Is it true that you will visit Moscow?

Answer: What has been reported about a retreat in Syaian-Soviet relations is not true. Relations between us and the Soviet Union are relations of strong friendship based on equal treatment. We have not sensed that the Soviet Union is interfering in our domestic affairs. There is no connection between Syria's relations with the Soviet Union and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party's relations with any party or political grouping in Syria. Such matters have never been and never will be a topic of discussion between us and the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union absolutely does not discuss these matters with us. I do not believe anyone has heard something different from what I have said.

We do not deal with the Syrian Communist Party as a representative of the Soviet Union. The Syrian Communist Party is a national and progressive party that exists in the Syrian arena. The communists are Syrian citizens, they participate in the cabinet, the National Progressive Front and other institutions in the same manner as all other national and progressive parties that exist in the Syrian arena. The front comprising these parties is exercising its task in accordance with the provisions of its charter. We in the party and the front look to the escalation of the work of the front. This matter is connected to our central decisions.

As you know, these matters need lengthy discussion at various levels. The important thing is that relations among the various parties in the front are good. Fruitful cooperation existed in past years. The Soviet Union deals with us and we deal with it on the basis of equality without any interference in domestic affairs. The Soviet Union stands on our side and supports us as a real and sincere friend who does not interfere in our domestic affairs. The Soviet Union denounces the aggression against us and the Israeli occupation of our territories and supports us in our struggle to liberate these territories. It supports us in enabling the Palestinian people to regain their legitimate rights and to establish their state. It provides us with political and military support to achieve this.

The Soviet Union supports us against the aggression without imposing any conditions on us. That's why we say it is a friendly country, and we can never deny this. I previously said I wished the United States would adopt such a stand so we can say the United States is a very friendly country. [Al-Asad does not answer the second part of this question, about visiting Moscow, until the end of the interview]

Question: Do we understand from this, Mr President, that Soviet support for the Arabs Is not adequate, compared to the absolute support Israel is getting from the United States? The Soviet Union is a major power interested in the issue of peace just like the United States. If Soviet support is not equal to U.S. support for Israel, it should at least be equal to half of that support. What is your opinion?

Answer: First of all, I would like to say that the United States is giving Israel the arms that enable it to occupy our territories while the Soviet Union is helping us and giving us the arms that enable us to defend ourselves. Therefore, the Soviet Union is a friend, while the United States is not because the former helps us and the latter helps our enemy. As to why we do not have sufficient arms, this is a complicated matter. In the Arab-Israeli dispute, the United States is supporting Israel to remain superior to all the Arabs combined. It is understood that certain Arab countries have good relations with the United States and other links that have a negative effect. Still, we are determined to achieve a strategic balance with Israel, enabling us to competently defend ourselves. We believe this will be achieved sooner or later. Israel is occupying our territories because of its military superiority. As I said, the day will come when we will achieve this balance. The balance does not just mean gun versus gun or gun versus tank. The balance has its human, military, political and economic factors. Each of these factors is also subdivided. Of course, there are certain factors already within our reach. For instance, we are developing our cadres rapidly and as best we can. The strategic balance is a very broad process. It does not depend entirely on the Soviet Union or the United States. Other international friendships also enter into the calculations of strategic balance. The issue is essentially ours. The friendly Soviet Union supports us. To say that this is its issue as much as ours is being unfair to ourselves and to the Soviet Union.

Question: Let us now move to the Arab Gulf. The Arab Gulf is currently facing a nightmare called Iran. Some Gulf states are certain Iran is preparing to attack some Gulf countries in its war against Iraq and that it has indeed hatched a plot to overrun Bahrain. What position will Syria take if a Gulf state is exposed to an Iranian danger or what could be construed as an Iranian danger?

Answer: We are certain Iran does not intend to attack any of the Gulf countries. Iranian officials have assured us on this matter. We, in turn, assured our brother officials in the Gulf states. We also assured them that with cooperation we can resolve all problems that have existed or might exist between us and Iran through mutual confidence, cooperation and the positive atmosphere that can be established between us and Iran. If there are any signs proving to the contrary, we have already told our brothers in the Gulf that we will unhesitatingly support any Arab Gulf country exposed to aggression from any quarter. As I said, this matter was made clear to our brothers in the Gulf and is known to the Iranians. Once again, I would like to say that the Iranians have assured us that they have no intention now, or in the future, of attacking any Gulf state or interfering in the internal affairs of the Gulf states. This was clear in the joint statement issued after 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam's visit to Iran. We can reassure our brothers in the Gulf that this possibility has been ruled out.

Question: Allow me to seek clarification on one point. There is a multiple leadership in Iran. Is the leadership, which promised Syria there would be no attack on any Gulf state, capable of continuing in power and carrying out the promise?

Answer: We deal with Iran through the leadership in power. We do not interfere in Iran's internal affairs. During our discussion with them, the Iranian leaders assured us that they have no intention, and it is not in their plans, to attack any Gulf state. On this basis, we say the possibility of such an attack is completely ruled out, because the Iranians assert that they are the brothers of the Arabs. They do not want to fight the Arabs. Their war with the Iraqi regime was imposed on them by that regime. They are fighting the Iraqi forces sent by that regime into Iranian territory. In other words, they are not fighting the Arabs, but the Iraqi regime, whose forces exist inside Iranian territory. We do not agree to the Iraqi regime's contention that Iran is an aggressor, because the Iraqi regime entered Iranian territory and not vice versa. The whole world knows this.

Question: We can understand why Syria closed its border with Iraq after we heard on French television the confessions made by certain persons and saw the booby-trapped cars Iraq sent. However, the suspension of the oil flow was interpreted in Baghdad as economic pressure on Iraq so it would discontinue its war against Iran.

Answer: Closing the border means cutting off [all movement across] the borders. What is the difference between cutting off the oil flow and stopping a truck carrying goods? Both require contact. The purpose is to prevent movement across the border. The continuation of the oil flow means continuation of movement across the border. Of course, our first intention was to prevent the acts of sabotage carried out recently by the Iraqi regime involving arms trafficking and booby-trapped cars. Iraqi agents have confessed everything on television. This measure should curtail the movement of people across the border and, consequently, curtail the Iraqi regime's ability to carry out acts of sabotage in our country. This was the purpose of the measure. We know Iraq is not facing a major economic problem. It is getting enormous aid. Our purpose is to stop or curtail any possible acts of sabotage by the Iraqi regime. Stopping movement across the border but maintaining the oil flow means continuing movement across the border. Thus, our measure would be ineffective. The measure has certainly had a psychological effect on those Syrians who were victims of Iraqi acts of sabotage. Those whose sons were killed or injured have considered this measure as some kind of an answer to the behavior of the Iraqi regime. We had to choose between one of two courses. The first course was to reply to the Iraqi regime in kind, but this is absolutely out of the question. As you know it is very easy to allow booby-trapped cars to cross the border when hundreds of cars travel daily between Syria and Iraq and to set them off in the streets of Baghdad and other Iraqi cities, but the Iraqi people have already suffered enough from the Iraqi regime and the woes of war. Therefore, we cannot possibly add to their suffering. The second course was to adopt some precautionary measures such as the one we took regarding the border.

Question: How is Syria's relationship with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and the UAE, especially since the suspension of Kuwaiti and Gulf aid and the accusation that Syria has complicated the meetings of the Arab followup committee? During a Kuwaiti National Assembly debate on financing the Arab Deterrent Forces in Lebanon, a Kuwaiti assembly member accused Syria of complicating the Arab followup committee meetings.

Answer: Relations between Syria and Saudi Arabia are good. Contacts and cooperation are continuing between us and have not stopped. Relations are not bad between us and any of the Arab Gulf countries. We consider the Kuwaiti National Assembly debate as a transient incident we have forgotten. Whether or not they help in financing the Arab Deterrent Forces is not crucial to us, because the existence of the Arab Deterrent Forces does not depend on funds from this or that state. There is no justification for any worsening of relations between us and any of the Arab Gulf states. They need us and we need them. We are essential to each other.

Question: Syrian-Palestinian relations are tense from time to time. One can sometimes sense such tension through a certain stand and statement. What is the secret behind Syrian-Palestinian differences, despite the recent strategic declaration between Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] and 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam? Abu Iyad told AL-MUSTAQBAL that there are differences with Syria on tactics. At the same time, Syria is not completely pleased with certain Palestinian dealings with Jordan, Iraq or even the Lebanese Nationalist Movement. It has been said that the Palestinian side deleted the reference to the Iraqi-Iranian war from the joint statement issued following Khaddam's talks with Abu Iyad.

Answer: In light of what I have seen during my meetings with Palestinian leaders, I cannot sense any tactical or strategic differences. When we meet, we always feel we are pursuing the same course. Of course, discussions do take place and different views are voiced, but all this has never affected tactical or strategic matters. Also, I have not sensed any tactical differences in the meetings of the joint Palestinian-Syrian committee, unless by tactics we mean what we encounter in our daily life. People who live together are sometimes confined to one small area. As you know, daily life has its circumstances, requirements and sentiments. Such things could happen between Palestinian and Syrian, Syrian and Syrian, Palestinian and Palestinian and Palestinian and Lebanese, despite the fact that they are in one tactical and strategic position. I cannot speak about any existing differences between Syria and the Palestinians. We would rather not interfere in relations among certain Palestinian groups. We do not impose anything on them. It is not in our interest to prevent them from establishing strong or weak relations with any Arab country. We have never before imposed on or asked any Palestinian brother to establish certain fixed relations with this or that country. It is not in our interest to impose such matters on any Palestinian group. Syria does not benefit in any way from any relationship a Palestinian group establishes with this or that Arab country. What is important to us are the major stands, our view of the comprehensive solution, our view of the just solution to the Palestine question, our view of war and peace and even our view on the solution of certain problems here and there. Setting up relations with this or that country does not weaken or strengthen us.

The declaration you mentioned received unanimous approval. It expressed Syria's viewpoint as much as the Palestinian viewpoint. We in Syria are keen on the unity of the Palestinian arena, because this is in the interest of the Palestinian people, the Arabs and the pan-Arab cause.

We are not surprised to see some different opinions between one Palestinian faction and another. This is natural. We work to overcome any peripheral differences that may exist on the Palestinian arena. However, I always feel the news media concentrate on this issue. There is concentration of differences between Syria and the Palestinians because some want Syria to be alienated from the Palestinians and the Palestinians to be liquidated, because everyone knows the Palestinian revolution needs a place and a strong pillar on which it can depend. This pillar is Syria. This is inevitable because of geographic, historical and other considerations. The Palestinian leadership knows this. Therefore, there is a news media concentration on the differences between Syria and the Palestinians.

Question: What is the real Syrian stand in Lebanon and what is your own concept about the distinguished relations with Lebanon? This is a question that is being asked at present. They say there is an attempt to draw up a joint defense treaty between Lebanon and Syria. What is your view of the situation in Lebanon?

Answer: Talking about Lebanon may take a long time. Lebanon's concerns, as you know, are actually Syria's concerns. Syria has offered large sacrifices for Lebanon. Rarely does any country offer such sacrifices for another country. However, we are satisfied because we feel that historically we are one people. Therefore, we do not hesitate to sacrifice for citizens in Lebanon in the same manner that we sacrifice for citizens in Syria. This means that the Syrian authority, state and citizens sacrifice for their brothers in Lebanon as we sacrifice for ourselves in Syria. Those objectively following developments in Lebanon during the last few years know the size of the human, material and political sacrifices Syria has offered for Lebanon. We do so out of the fact that we are one people in two countries and that we have a duty to carry out toward Lebanon, a fraternal country that has big problem and has been a tragedy for several years.

We believe we have rendered great services and that these sacrifices have led to results that have largely alleviated the Lebanese citizens' pains. This was our aspiration. We are helping Lebanon reach a situation in which its leadership, various sides and authorities will continue the march, will assume their responsibilities, will resolve problems and will deal with the causes that led Lebanon to this situation. We have to help Lebanon resolve this part of the problem. This is what we have done and what we are doing. We tell our Lebanese brothers in the various forces, parties and authority that we are helping you but not replacing you.

The civil war in Lebanon has stopped only as a result of Syrian forces. Some think this is the biggest catastrophe. Still, we have to reach an accord and a state of peace between the fighting sides. They must meet, discuss the causes of their disputes and try to tackle them. Right now, matters are moving backward and forward. They move one step forward and then backwards. Sometimes, they take a few steps forward and then move backward a few steps. This is the problem we are facing and to which we are devoting all our efforts. We will continue to devote efforts. Of course, someone may say: Indeed, you have stopped the civil war, but the fighting still goes on everywhere. There are also problems. What is now happening is one thing, and civil war is something else. In a country like Lebanon, where there are so many armed groups and where various types of weapons exist in every house and are exchanged and fired at people's personal whims, it would be strange not to expect recurring problems. However, there is no comparison between the woes and suffering resulting from these problems and the woes and sufferings resulting from a civil war. The only thing we want is to see Lebanon healthy and fully recovered. We want to see the people reunited once again and loving each other so their homeland will achieve their aspirations and assure them of a better future as well as the pan-Arab future of Lebanon, which is also important. We are prepared to respond to what Lebanon wants from us. The distinguished relationship between the two countries is an established fact. They cannot get rid of it. The nature of the geographic, historical and human links between Syria and Lebanon impose this special or distinguished relationship. This is what every Lebanese says without exception, both those who like or dislike Syria. This is also what every Syrian says. However, I have never discussed this special or distinguished relationship with anyone. The important thing is to reorganize the importance of bilateral cooperation. In my opinion, bilateral relations should be reorganized to reduce the burdens on the two countries and to ensure the well-being of the citizens in both countries. In my opinion, this is what the distinguished relationship seeks to achieve. How this is to be achieved has never been raised with anyone. As you can see, our main concern now is to enable Lebanon to finally emerge from its crisis. After that we can discuss the formula of the distinguished relationship between the two countries. Especially since, as I have said, there is a consensus that a distinguished relationship must always exist between the two countries. I have no idea of a treaty or any of the things you mentioned.

Question: Long before its military presence in Lebanon, Syria had a hand in what took place in Lebanon due to the ties of neighborliness, proximity, intermarriage between the two countries and so forth. People talk about a Syrian-backed candidate for the presidency in Lebanon. However, Syrian officials, including Your Excellency, reject such inference. Syria has had influence in Lebanon even before the military presence. Does Syria have any clear idea about the coming presidential election campaign in Lebanon, or what we could term as the presidential candidate considered suitable to Syria?

Answer: First of all, we must make it clear that any decision on the presidential issue must be strictly Lebanese. True, we have friends among individuals and groups with whom we often discuss matters relating to Lebanon and Syria. In the final analysis, however, the decision is theirs. I can assure you that in all our discussions with our friends, we have not nominated anyone. I mean we have not mentioned any person as a suitable candidate. Of course, we all want to have a man who can express the opinion and wishes of the overwhelming majority of the Lebanese, who can promote the process of national accord among the Lebanese and who can rebuild Lebanese institutions. In short, we want a man who can take Lebanon out of its crisis to a situation desired by all Lebanese. No one has presented any program. All we hear is that candidates are nominating themselves.

Question: It was and still is being reiterated in Lebanon that the Syrian leadership is vetoing someone called Raymond Iddih.

Answer: We have no veto on any Lebanese. However, there is no veto on Raymond Iddih. Not now, not in the past. We have never vetoed Raymond Iddih.

Question: It is said in Beirut that the Arab Deterrent Forces are withdrawing from certain areas in Beirut so the presidential election can be held without any apprehensions that the Arab Deterrent Forces might interfere.

Answer: We agree to anything the Lebanese may decide regarding the withdrawal of the Arab Deterrent Forces. If the Lebanese want us to withdraw from a place, we will. If they want us to remain in a certain place, we will. You know that such things happen every now and then. Sometimes they ask us to withdraw from Tripoli, which we do. Sometimes they ask us to enter Tripoli, which we also do. Sometimes they ask us to enter western Beirut or to leave it, which we also do. Actually, I see no connection between the election and the Arab Deterrent Forces withdrawals. If the Arab Deterrent Forces withdraw there will be no elections and fratricide may erupt again. However, if the Lebanese see it otherwise, then we will agree.

Question: President Sulayman Franjiyah cited you as saying there will be imminent detente. you optimistic?

Answer: We try to encourage all parties to move toward the achievement of national accord, which is the detente President Franjiyah mentioned. He and I discussed this affair, and I think it is not be suitable to go into further detail. We talk with all parties directly and indirectly. President Franjiyah knows we are exerting efforts and are seriously seeking to achieve this objective. I appreciate his statements noting Syrian efforts in this direction.

Naturally, contacts are being widened among all parties concerned. We hope these contacts will continue to develop. Everybody must proceed on the same path an in the same direction, because the other side of the path is closed. This is the only choice. People in Lebanon must move toward achieving national accord and peace. They must solve the present problems in Lebanon. There are difficulties, but nothing is impossible in Lebanon.

Question: Even achieving national accord?

Answer: Yes. We have no grudge against anyone in Lebanon. We feel sorry about certain mistaken stands of this or that party. However, this does not push us to block the roads in the face of any effort or work that may contribute to solving the problem, because our overall objective is to solve the problem. Whenever possible, we will do anything that may help to bring about this objective.

Question: It seems to me that the French Socialists came to power intending to flirt with Israel. Actually, there were stories about an intention to provoke the Arab world. It seems they are now concentrating on Syria because of its distinguished stands and because it is in the advanced trench. The direct friction began with the killing of the French ambassador in Beirut and has escalated since then, particularly since Syria took a stand on Mitterrand's visit to Israel. The situation began to deteriorate with the Rue Marbeuf explosion and events that followed. What is Your Excellency's comment on the subject?

Answer: I can say that Syrian-French relations and Arab-French relations were good from the days of General de Gaulle until the current administration came to power. Since then, these relations grew cooler and eventually deteriorated, particularly after President Mitterrand's visit to Israel.

As for us, there is no ambiguity regarding the situation and the reasons. It is clear that the reason behind the deterioration in Syrian-French relations is the Zionist influence among French Government circles. This influence carries certain weight in French policy. Any other interpretation of the reason behind the deterioation in the Syrian-French relations is used as a smokescreen because all these interpretations and stories lack truth and logic. Syria is not responsible for the deterioration in Syrian-French relations. Syria has not done anything that might justify this deterioration. The French Government knows this very well. Otherwise, it would give evidence of acts carried out by Syria -- acts that could justify this deterioration. This may not be surprising to us if we take into consideration the wide Zionist influence among French Government circles. This reminds us of France before President de Gaulle. Hence, it is our right and duty to believe that France today is trying to revive the same French image that prevailed before President de Gaulle, an image hostile to Arabs and their cause and in favor of Israel.

We do not want this to happen, yet all indications are that France is moving in this direction. We hear words denying this, but words can never hide the acts that say something different. It is wrong to believe that one can have a cordial friendship with aggressive Israel and service French interests in the Arab world at the same time. In other words, it is wrong to believe that one may have a cordial friendship with Israel and a cordial friendship with the Arabs at the same time.

We are sorry to see that today's France may revive the old image that prevailed before General de Gaulle, particularly since Syrian-French and Arab-French relations have developed positively since the days of De Gaulle. France has actually occupied forward positions regarding our cause in the region and the cause of war and peace. France has actually occupied an independent and forward stance on the Arab-Israeli struggle and other international causes.

This big role seems to be changing now. At the same time, however, we realize that we have many friends among the French people. We also realize that the French people have always been pioneers of freedom. They have always sought justice, freedom and the support of other peoples suffering from injustice and aggression.

What is taking place in France against Syria contradicts the French people's interests and concept of freedom. What is happening constitutes a clear attempt to put pressure on Syria. This attempt has been unsuccessful and is doomed to failure. This attempt is just another link in the chain of pressures that are being placed on Syria to force it to yield to the Zionist design in the region. This will never happen. This design will fail whether it is carried out in part or as a whole.

We are the owners of a just cause. We are defending our freedom against occupation and invasion. We seek to have a genuine peace based on justice. A peace under which our citizens may enjoy their complete freedom, under which they can freely decide their future; a peace under which there will be no oppression or injustice; a peace under which we feel we are not living next to a superpower that threatens us with aggression whenever it wants to or whenever it feels that an aggressive action will serve its interests. By such a superpower I mean Israel.

We want to establish a dignified peace by dignified means, behavior and practices -- a peace that we feel serves our interest and dignity. The pressures that were exerted, are being exerted and will be exerted will not separate us from this path and these aims. The fate of peace and war and the establishment of peace in this region will be decided right here in this region and will depend on us in this region, not others. The major role others can play in their region should be based on their challenge and confrontation against all forms of aggression and their responsible behavior, which does not show any internal motives of domination and hegemony. We want our relations with France to be good, especially since there are French officials, intellectuals and various citizens whom we respect and who, like us, wish to strengthen friendship between the two countries. Despite that, good relations must be established if both concerned parties so desire. If France wants good relations, we will accept them. If it wants bad relations let that be, because they will be responsible for that to the French people.

Concerning security issues, the problem of the ambassador and the rest, I said the French Government realizes that Syria has no connection with that. It is not customary for us to resort to such practices, and is not in our interest. Had the French Government attempted to find out who had an interest in the explosion incident it would have realized that Syria had no interest in it.

Crimes are committed in several countries and the perpetrator is never found, so where does our responsibility lie if the murderers of the French ambassador in Beirut were not found?

Also, assuming that our interests and French interests were contradictory, what is the ambassador's role in this and what can the ambassador's presence or his absence offer with regard to affecting Syria either positiviely or negatively? Nothing. We did not know that France had an independent role in Lebanon that it could play without Syria and the Arab nation. If France had such a role, would it depend on the French ambassador or any particular ambassador? If the matter depended on the French ambassador, another ambassador would come. One other thing. What role could France play in Lebanon that would contradict Syrian interests, and can it actually do it? If anyone believes that, then he is surely under an illusion.

Lebanon is an Arab country and no one but the Arabs can make a decision about it. On this issue we cannot tolerate or compliment anyone, neither France nor any other foreign country. No French official ever told us that France was about to play a special role in Lebanon and particularly a role that could contradict the Arab role. Is it possible for a person to say there are some people who still refuse to believe we are a single nation? We are the ones who are concerned with solving causes and problems. How can a foreign country solve a problem in Lebanon if the Arabs oppose such a solution? Thus, we say that we do not know of a special French plan for Lebanon and especially a plan that contradicts our trends. When we realize that such plan exists we will tell the French Government: We oppose your plan. This plan will not come off. Get out of Lebanon. It is our Arab land.

A while ago we said Syria and Lebanon have distinguished relations, and we understand that relations among Arab countries are all distinguished ones that only concern the Arabs. There are no special relations between France and the Arab countries unless some wanted to remind us of the colonialist relations. We do not want to remember that, and I do not think the French citizens want us to remember these colonialist relations. Lebanon is an Arab country, and we are from it and it is from us. For that reason we have sacrificed for it. Could any French Government make the same sacrifices for Lebanon as those made by Syria? When Lebanon went through its worst tragedies French envoys came to Lebanon. I met with some of them and all of them were pinning their hopes on Syria's sacrifices and support and not on sacrifices that could from France. Others came and offered Lebanon various things, and you may ask Lebanese officials and particularly the Lebanese president at that time, Sulayman Franjiyah. You will find out that only Syria offered human and economic sacrifices for Lebanon.

Once again, I say that we do not have any information of any French plan that we may oppose. If such a plan does exist then we must be told about it. If we do not like it we will struggle against it and it will not succeed. If it is something else then we will have a different opinion. If the French administration has a role, let it present it to us and we will voice our opinion about it. If the French administration has proof that connects Syria with security affairs, let it also submit it to us and we will not escape from our moral and material responsibility. However, once again I say that the French Government, more than anyone else, realizes that Syria has no connection with these incidents. The deterioration of relations is connected with the Zionist influence in French Government circles and is not connected with Syria's alleged connection with the security incidents.

Question: It has been said that you will visit the Soviet Union soon. Will you embark on this visit?

Answer: I will visit the Soviet Union, but the date for the visit has not been set.

BA'TH OFFICIAL RECEIVES POLISH AMBASSADOR

JN111306 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Regional Command of the Ba'th Party, today received Boguslaw Kaczynski, Polish ambassador in Damascus. The discussions dealt with relations between the Ba'th Party and the Polish United Workers Party and means of improving these relations.

SHAMIR ON AUTONOMY VENUE, TABAH, WEST BANK

TA080952 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 8 May 82

["Weekly Newsreel" interview with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer -- place and date not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Shamir] We regret the announcement by the Egyptian president that the Egyptians will under no circumstances agree to the autonomy negotiations being held in Jerusalem. We have nothing against Geneva; it is a beautiful, pleasant city. However, we cannot accomodate or take part in the boycott of Jerusalem. We believe the negotiations should be conducted in all capitals -- Cairo, Washington and also Jerusalem. The negotiations can also be conducted in a neutral place. However, since the Jerusalem issue has arisen, we cannot under any circumstances consent to a boycott. It is unjustified intransigence [by the Egyptians]. I still hope we will be able to overcome this misunderstanding.

[Question] You talk of overcoming the misunderstanding. It is perhaps possible to offer a few scenarios and the question is what Israel will agree to. If Israel is informed Egyptian negotiators, in principle, will go to Jerusalem but the first round of talks will open in Washington, for instance, will Israel agree to this?

[Answer] Look, we need not hold negotiations about this on the radio. It is not especially important for the negotiations to be held in Jerusalem but they must be held in Jerusalem. [sentence as heard] It seems to us that after several sessions have already been held in various locations, it is Jerusalem's turn now.

[Question] This question of Jerusalem is a point involving a principle. In recent years the autonomy talks have not been held in Jerusalem. Why insist on this now? This is being asked by the Egyptians and others.

[Answer] It is it which gives. [sentence as heard] The talks have not yet been held in Jerusalem. Thus, why should we agree to a clear decision whereby the talks can be held anywhere except Jerusalem. That reason cited by the Egyptians -- that Jerusalem is one of the disputed issues and therefore it is impossible to discuss autonomy there -- is not really logical. All the official representatives of countries that visit Israel go to Jerusalem since Jerusalem is our capital; it is in Jerusalem that the government, the Knesset and the president of the state are located. Do all of the representatives that go to Jerusalem accept our positions on Jerusalem? Certainly not, but it is an accepted custom that whoever speaks with the Israeli Government goes to Jerusalem.

[Question] The dialogue between Jerusalem and Cairo following the completion of the Sinai withdrawal has in the meantime been held in the form of declarations in the two capitals. Since you and your Egyptian counterpart have decided to meet once every 3 months do you intend to accept the Egyptian foreign minister's invitation to go to Cairo soon and discuss all issues, including bilateral relations, through direct contacts?

[Answer] It is clear an exchange of declarations in the mass media is not the best way to settle problems and continue peaceful relations between Egypt and Israel. The Egyptian foreign minister and myself decided, in one of our recent meetings, that we will hold periodic meetings, once every 3 or 4 months. I think we will soon have such a meeting. We have not yet set the date for this, but we will set it soon.

[Question] Where will you meet?

[Answer] This is not at all important, but it is obvious that the meetings will alternate between Cairo and Jerusalem.

[Question] Until recently, few people in Egypt had heard about Tabah, which is located near Elat. The dispute erupting between Israel and Egypt on the border demarcation in that area has made Tabah a symbol. There is hardly a day in Egypt in which the media do not deal with the Tabah problem. The two countries have reached agreement on the way to solve the problem. It is believed in Jerusalem that this issue can be handled just as the issue of autonomy for the Arabs in the territories has been treated. Set no time limits. However, the Egyptians are pressed for time. This week Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali sent a message to his Israeli counterpart on the completion of the Tabah negotiations.

[Answer] In his most recent letter, Kamal Hasan 'Ali informed me this stage of negotiations, as stipulated in article 7 [of the peace treaty], has been exhausted and we should therefore proceed to the next stage. He mentioned arbitration only and for some reason skipped the matter of conciliation. I will certainly answer him. We will behave exactly according to what is stipulated in the peace treaty. I think if we follow this road we will finally reach a solution.

[Question] Is it possible the solution could be that Rafi Nelson's resort village and the hotel there will not be in Israeli territory?

[Answer] It is difficult to say what the outcome of the entire process of settling the dispute will be. We are, however, convinced the area in question is located and should be located within the boundaries of the State of Israel.

[Question] With your permission, Mr Foreign Minister, let us discuss Israel's relations with the United States which is a full party to the peace process and to all events here. This week U.S. spokesmen expressed on several occasions concern about the situation in the territories. The question is whether U.S. concern was taken into consideration by Israel in determining its policy in the territories?

[Answer] We do not need any reminders or statements by political elements that we should make an effort to ensure that quiet prevails in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza and that there be no unnecessary victims. I say unnecessary victims since those rioters, those residents in the territories who throw stones and other objects at our soldiers are, in fact, victims of the people who have appointed themselves as the leaders of the Arabs of Eretz Yisra'el. They sit far from the arena, send instructions, incite and instigate the population in the territories in order to prevent the continuation of the peace process. We regret the casualties. We do not want them. They serve no purpose and are to no avail.

[Question] It is a fact, however, that youths get killed in the territories. Does this not influence policymaking? Do reports reaching Israel from abroad not lead you to recommend a different method of solving this problem?

[Answer] Look, we have a way. We think under the present circumstances or conditions, there is no solution better than the path outlined by the Camp David accords. This is a logical and generous path, and most importantly, it is the only possible path. Riots by several hundred people will not change this direction. We will do our best to prevent casualties; we do not want them.

At the same time, we cannot tell our soldiers, who are sometimes cruelly attacked, not to defend themselves. However, I hope in the coming days or weeks the situation will change and there will be no more unnecessary casualties.

[Question] Mr Foreign Minister, what do you expect of the United States now that the Sinai withdrawal has been completed and now that we are on the eve of renewing the autonomy talks and opening a new stage in the political process?

[Answer] The United States is a partner and a very important and serious element in this Camp David triangle. I am referring to the triangle of Egypt, Israel and the United States. There would have been no Camp David were it not for the United States. The active participation of the United States in the negotiations and the peace process is very vital. After all, As-Sadat reached the conclusion that he should make peace with Israel mainly because of his determination to maintain close relations and cooperation with the United States. This has been, until now, an important and decisive factor that has determined Egypt's positions. When we made far-reaching concessions at Camp David, we largely relied on the United States' guarding of this peace. Therefore, in the next stage, we believe the United States should play an important role in which it will express its position and insist that the Camp David process be implemented in the way it was agreed upon.

KUBERSKY, FAIRBANKS DISCUSS AUTONOMY PROPOSALS

TA111023 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 May 82 pp 1, 2

[Report by the political correspondent]

[Excerpt] In the working session held yesterday morning by U.S. envoy Fairbanks' party with a group of Israeli officials headed by Interior Ministry Director General Hayim Kubersky, a document drawn up by the United States concerning the autonomy negotiations was reviewed. This document discusses the issues involved in the negotiations and how much agreement has been reached on them. It was agreed the document would also be presented in Cairo. If agreement is reached on the location of the talks, the document will be brought up for discussion by the delegations attending the autonomy negotiations. After that it will be presented to the political echelons of the three parties.

SHARON, PERES, FAIRBANKS DISCUSS AUTONOMY VENUE

TA111616 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks, Richard Fairbanks, will depart today for Egypt. Fairbanks said today he would return to Israel if he succeeded in making some progress in Cairo regarding the dispute over the venue for the talks. The U.S. envoy conferred this evening in Jerusalem with Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon and with the chairman of the Labor Party. Our political correspondent Gad Becker rpeorts.

[Becker -- live] Richard Fairbanks will depart for Cairo today to present his ideas to wind up the argument over the issue of also holding the autonomy talks in Jerusalem. Fairbanks speaks about the possibility of holding ministerial talks in Washington and meetings of officials in Cairo and Jerusalem or, alternately, about an Egyptian agreement in principle to hold talks in Jerusalem although the initial meetings would be held in Washington.

In Israel, the U.S. diplomat was not told the government would support his ideas but, as far as it is known, they were not rejected either. If the Egyptian side is receptive to Fairbanks' ideas, he will return to Israel.

Otherwise, Fairbanks will go back to Washington. In that case, it may be assumed the question will be discussed by higher levels and at a later date, perhaps when the prime minister goes to Washington in a few weeks.

The defense minister today told Fairbanks he wondered about the Egyptian position which precludes deliberations on the difficult problems related to the autonomy by creating a problem over the venue for the talks. Sharon reiterated the government's position the autonomy talks could only be held in Jerusalem, Cairo and Washington. In his meeting with the U.S. envoy, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said the issue of the venue for the talks should not hinder the negotiations and President Mubarak should regard the autonomy talks as part of a process conducive to a solution of the conflict in the Middle East.

U.S. WARNS AGAINST ESCALATION IN LEBANON

TA110957 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 11 May 82 p 1

[Report by political correspondent 'Uzi Benziman]

[Text] In the last 24 hours the United States has urged Israel to avoid exacerbating the situation along the northern border. Among other things, it warned against a belligerent escalation in which events could get out of hand. Foreign sources reported last night that in the last 24 hours the Washington administration has conveyed to Israel its concern that Israel would retaliate for the terrorists' shelling of the Galilee. The United States accepts Israel's contention that the terrorist operations that preceded the air force raid 2 days ago constitute a violation of the cease-fire agreement reached 9 months ago. They also agree the cease-fire applies to all fronts, as Israel maintains.

At the same time, Washington believes an Israeli retaliatory operation, even if on a limited scale, might result in a chain reaction that could bring the situation to a dangerous boiling point. The U.S. administration has warned of the possibility that Syria might intervene in the eventuality of a broad conflagration in the north, and noted the Soviets have patronage over Damascus. It is also known in the last few days the United States has taken action in several Arab capitals, including Beirut, to try to lessen the tension in the north and prevent further aggravation of the situation. In the meeting held yesterday between Richard Fairbanks and Samuel Lewis and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir on the autonomy negotiations, Lewis expressed the administration's apprehensions lest the situation in the north deteriorate.

CABINET REPORTED DIVIDED OVER POLICY IN LEBANON

TA122025 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The escalation of tension on the northern border was discussed at the Cabinet session yesterday and, as has been learned, views in the Cabinet are divided on the question of how Israel should act. Our political correspondent Elimelekh Ram spoke with Cabinet ministers today and also with political and military sources and discusses this issue.

[Ram -- live in studio] The possibility cannot be dismissed that if there is any further escalation on the northern border, there will be no alternative to a confrontation with the terrorists. There are differences of opinion in the Cabinet about the way Israel should act against the terrorists' attacks. One of the main questions is: Will Israel be able to reap the fruits of its military success in the political field or would a political achievement be prevented by pressure from the United States, the Soviet Union and the UN Security Council, as has happened in the past.

In this context, people are recalling the severe U.S. reaction after the bombing of the terrorists' headquarters in Beirut, when the United States suspended shipments of F-15 and F-16 aircraft. There are Cabinet ministers who believe Israel should explain its position on the terrorist issue, especially in the United States, in order to gain political backing.

Israel must take Syrian intervention into account. Syria wants supervision and control over the terrorist organizations and will come to their rescue to prevent them from being destroyed. Syria will also work in order not to lose the political and military influence it has in Lebanon. There are those who are also pointing to the Soviet Union, which would come to the rescue of Syria and aid it and deepen its presence and involvement in the area.

SHARON: CEASE-FIRE APPLIES TO ALL FRONTS

TA111522 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1500 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The defense minister has reiterated Israel's demand that the cease-fire with the terrorists be maintained on all fronts and added Israel could not afford to accept the terrorists' position that the cease-fire agreement applied only to Lebanon. The defense minister was speaking in the Knesset building with the U.S. envoy to the autonomy negotiations, Richard Fairbanks. The envoy conveyed a verbal invitation to the defense minister to go to Washington to confer with U.S. administration officials during Sharon's visit to the United States on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal and to represent the Israeli Government in a parade for Israel in New York.

IDF CHIEF EYTAN DOUBTS CEASE-FIRE STILL EXISTS

TA120524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] The chief of staff has said following the latest operations of the terrorists, which culminated in the Katyusha shelling 3 days ago, it is doubtful the cease-fire still exists. In a meeting with the heads of settlements along the northern border, the chief of staff asked them to transmit a message to the regional population, saying although some shells may have fallen, he can nonetheless assure them that no war of attrition in the style of last July would recur.

EXPERTS VIEW POSSIBILITY OF SYRIAN INTERVENTION

TA120938 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 May 82 pp 1, 15

[Report by Ya'aqov Erez, 'Oded Granot and Ilan Kfir]

[Excerpts] A large-scale Israeli attack in southern Lebanon is liable to cause a military confrontation between Israel and Syria in Lebanon that might also spread to the Golan Heights say Israeli military experts, particularly following recent reports of a Syrian military alert and the lightning visit of the Syrian chief of staff to Saudi Arabia.

Damascus is creating the impression it is firmly resolved to intervene in the event of an Israeli attack in southern Lebanon. The Israeli experts say such an attack is liable to escalate into a war between Israel and Syria. According to the assessment of such an eventuality, the fighting would not be limited to Lebanese territory but would spread to the Golan Heights.

The Israeli experts stress a large-scale military action against the terrorists in southern Lebanon would ultimately become a war with Syrian forces in the south. A large-scale military operation cannot be confined today to the areas of the terrorists. The terrorists' deployment in southern Lebanon rests upon that of the Syrian forces there.

The terrorists have moved many 130-mm cannons into the eastern sector of the Al-Biqa', where Syrian forces are located. They have positioned these cannons in areas under cover of the Syrian missiles near Zahlah. A tendency of the terrorists to deploy their forces close to Syrian forces in Lebanon in order to cause Syrian intervention in the event of an Israeli attack has been discerned.

A cease-fire on the Lebanese border actually does not exist. The terrorists are violating the agreement openly and in all sectors and Israel cannot reconcile itself to this, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told the U.S. envoy to the autonomy talks, Richard Fairbanks, during their talk yesterday in Jerusalem. The defense minister described to the U.S. envoy the deployment of the terrorists along the northern border and claimed their huge concentrations and heavy weaponry were intended for one purpose only: to attack the Israeli settlements.

Political contacts yesterday continued between the United States and Israel regarding the tense situation on the northern border.

The United States again beseeched Israel not to act, for fear of the grave implications such a military step is liable to have. The United States continued its efforts for restraint on the part of Israel, fearing an Israeli military action against the terrorist concentrations on the Lebanese-Israeli border would cause the cease-fire to collapse and would be liable to lead to direct Syrian intervention in the military confrontation and to a deepening of Soviet involvement.

The Americans reported to Israel the Soviet Union is anticipating the situation in the region will heat up so that it can deepen its involvement and send more experts to Syria, and perhaps also to Lebanon, where there is a small number of Soviet experts.

RADIO CITES MONTE CARLO REPORT ON SYRIAN PLANS

TA111824 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Radio Monte Carlo reported this evening, in a report from Damascus, Syria has decided it will not sit back with folded arms in the event of Israeli military action in Lebanon. A Damascus radio correspondent reports from senior Syrian sources that Syria, the PLO and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement have decided on coordination among themselves in the event of Israeli action. The question is, the correspondent said, to what extent will Damascus get involved. Western observers in Damascus have expressed the fear a military confrontation with Israel would cause broad Soviet infiltration of Syria. Our correspondent on Arab affairs, Aharon Barne'a, says the chief of staff of the Syrian Army, Gen Hikmat Ash-Shihabi, made a lightning visit to Saudi Arabia today and met with King Khalid. Observers in Damascus connect this visit with the Syrian preparations for possible Israeli military action.

EAGLEBURGER: IDF ACTED WITH FLEXIBILITY IN LEBANON

TA120527 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, Lawrence Eagleburger has said Israel had acted with flexibility in Lebanon, adding it is most important that a conflagration there should not break out. In a meeting with Deputy Foreign Minister Yehuda Ben-Me'ir, Eagleburger also spoke in detail about the U.S. plans to ease the tension in Lebanon and transmitted a message to the prime minister on the strategic memorandum of understanding, which may be resumed soon. As for the supply of arms to Jordan, Eagleburger said no request has yet arrived from Amman and even though the United States sympathizes with Israel's concern, it wants to maintain proper relations with the Arab countries.

KNESSET REJECTS HADASH NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION

TA111716 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The no-confidence motion submitted by the HADASH faction has been defeated by the Knesset. Fifty-five Knesset members from the coalition, Tehiya and Telem voted against it; only the 4 members of HADASH voted in favor and 34 members of the opposition abstained. In the preceding debate, the Alignment and the Likud exchanged serious accusations. MK Mordekhay Gur of the Alignment accused the government of blocking the changes of peace and of giving the IDF impossible situations and missions. The Likud countered by saying Gur's remarks were instigating the IDF against the government. [sentence as heard] MK Ehud Olmert accused the Alignment of currently undermining Israel's security positions.

DISPUTE ERUPTS AMONG CIVIL ADMINISTRATORS

TA100620 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] In a letter to the head of the civil administration, Professor Menahem Milson, the major staff officers in the Judaea and Samaria civil administration say his policy has destroyed the system built by military authorities. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that in the letter 25 staff officers criticize the process of making decisions without consulting them. Writing that Milson has damaged their status by dealing with Arab workers behind their backs, the staff officers demand Milson confer with them. They also express their surprise that he has not found it appropriate to do so up till now. The staff officers also say those close to Milson are hostile to anyone who criticizes his policy and one of the staff officers was called a PLO supporter for voicing criticism. A copy of the letter was sent to the Defense Ministry.

In reaction, Professor Milson said the report is misleading and all the details mentioned are incorrect. He said there were several misunderstandings over procedural matters in the civil administration stemming from reorganization and they have now been settled. Reasonable and proper work procedures are now being observed between the staff officers and the other officials in the system, on the one hand, and among the staff officers themselves on the other. Milson says he enjoys the full cooperation and the professional experience of the staff officers, and the accusation that he had called one of them a PLO supporter is false and slanderous.

SEPARATE SAMARIA CIVIL ADMINISTRATION FORMED

TA111044 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 11 May 82 p 1

[Report by 'Amos Levav]

[Text] The Samaria District has recently completed the separation between the civil administration in the territories and the military government. The new civil administration district now joins the Judaea and Binyamin Districts, which have already been established. The new district will include the areas of Nabulus, Janin and Tulkarm and from now on the military governors of those towns will deal only with civilian affairs. Beginning today, officers holding the rank of lieutenant colonel will deal with regular defense affairs and with purely military issues. The establishment of the Samaria civil administration district is yet another step in the road to establishing the civil administration in the territories.

PALESTINIAN WRITER APPEALS TO PLO FOR MODERATION

TA071012 Jerusalem POST in English 7 May 82 p 8

["Open Letter" to the PLO leadership from "Palestinian writer and politician" (Abu Zeer al-Gaffari): "Dear PLO Members"]

[Text] Palestinians representing the population of the West Bank and Gaza will soon meet in Damascus to discuss the problems facing their leadership, and the future of that leadership. As a Palestinian, I would like to put several suggestions before them.

You can take a major step forward -- and embarrass Israel -- if you exercise moderation and recognize today's political realities. Israeli extremism feeds on your extremism. You must, therefore, renounce your own violent tactics and terrorism. You signed a cease-fire in southern Lebanon with the UNIFIL forces; extend the cease-fire for one year -- a year in which you explicitly forsake your strategy of violence. Devote this year to peaceful efforts and negotiation. If this truce does not prove worthwhile, you can then break it; but you should not let yourselves be provoked too easily into giving up a period of peace. Exercise a cool restraint.

You must realize that the article of the Palestinian Charter calling for the destruction of Israel seriously damages your credibility, poisons your world-wide image, and hinders your efforts. It also affects the reputation of all the Palestinian people in the eyes of the world.

No national charter is unchangeable holy writ. History shows that many great nations have abandoned elements of their national charters for the good of the people. Rather than crying out for the destruction of Israel, why don't you allow yourselves to praise the moderate Israeli voice which is honest, just, and loudly opposed to the mistreatment of the Palestinian people in the occupied areas? Those of us who live under the occupation are aware -- and grateful -- that the traditional Jewish sense of justice and compassion for oppressed people has been frequently outraged and has expressed its sympathy with the Palestinian people. It is to your advantage to praise the good while you accuse the wrong-doers. The Palestinian resistance movement must make an immediate decision. Is it a liberation movement or a national independence movement?

The movement should adapt its strategy on the basis of the realities it faces. Its tactics should not, under any circumstances contradict the strategy of liberation. At the same time the strategy of independence should take into full account the truly possible and the obviously impossible -- as well as the limits to which the movement's regional and international allies will support its goals. Mixing the two strategies and tactics will only cause us to abandon the possible for the sake of the impossible. The history of the Palestinian conflict is full of such mistakes. Our current situation is a result of this lack of vision of political realities.

You are, I know, keenly aware of the nature of the social, political and economic structures of the Arab regimes -- structures which are artificial and corrupt. Such structures work only to our detriment. The fact that all the Arab powers are not founded on the support and loyalty of the people, but on the military, intelligence and police agencies' iron grip on those people.

How do the so-called "progressive" Arab regimes and the so-called "reactionary" regimes differ from each other? They may seem to speak different languages, but they act in exactly the same way. Do you honestly believe that such regimes will consent to co-exist with a Palestinian -- or any kind of -- liberation movement?

Freedom breeds freedom.

I doubt, as well, that they will put up with any kind of Palestinian independence movement.

Have they yet been able to tolerate a single Palestinian speaking a different language in their native lands? Do I need to remind you of the post-1967 massacres of Palestinian men, women, and children by both "reactionary" and "progressive" Arab governments?

The policy of the Arab powers towards the Palestinians is quite clear: They shall be treated as unwelcome and suspicious "guests," and must accept whatever those governments offer, even if that offer includes imprisonment, discrimination, deportation, brainwashing, and torture. Those regimes fight only one battle and have only one ally. They fight to stay in power, and make alliances with whoever will help them keep their titles and ranks. They will give up anything, abandon anyone, and sell out everything for the sake of holding on to their power. And you should know by now that the Palestinians have always been one of those things which those Arab regimes give up, abandon, and sell out. Have you ever heard of an Arab head of state who resigned his office because his policies led to national disasters, or caused the loss of national territories and dignity?

Egyptians, Syrians, Moroccans, Jordanians and Iraqis -- as well as Palestinians -- fought in the October 1973 war. How little we know today of those soldiers who sacrificed their lives for national pride and ambitions! We know only one thing -- the heroes of the October war were President as-Sadat and President al-Asad. How many regimes treat their national martyrs only as a means of establishing their own personal, patriotic glorification? How can those leaders feel any sense of belonging to the Arab soil and Arab aspirations?

The Palestinian resistance movement was born on non-Palestinian ground. The other Arab powers grabbed hold of the movement to cover up their humiliating defeat in 1967. As time passed, it became clear that the Arab regimes expected the Palestinian movement to melt into their own national guard forces to protect their wives and children and guard their palaces. Are you content to continue serving as their personal guard and be bought as mercenaries? You cannot deny that the Palestinian resistance leadership failed to anticipate and to counter Israel's tactics of dealing with the movement's military activity. Israel succeeded in forcing back the resistance's military forces from the frontiers into the villages and cities of neighbouring countries. This resulted in conflict and misunderstanding between the resistance fighters and the local civilian populations.

Another consequence was the many Palestinian groups came to place a higher priority on their allegiance to this or that Arab regime than on their loyalty to Palestinian goals. And in the end, many Palestinian resistance groups -- either deliberately -- or unwillingly -- found themselves actively involved in Arab rivalries, against one another.

These confusing and crippling entanglements have to be dealt with before you can progress one more step. The Palestinian movement and its resistance forces must redirect their activities and policies specifically and only to the problems in the West Bank and Gaza.

Why do you insist on exhausting your energies mediating between North and South Yemen? Libya and Tunis? Iraq and Iran? Looking towards the future, let me point out that when a Palestinian state is finally established we do not know whom we will need -- or want -- as allies and friends. We are making enemies and bedfellows whom we may not be able to afford in the future. When it finally is born, the future Palestinian state will face many tough challenges. We want this state to be completely and utterly different from other Arab states. We have had enough Arab nations of the mercy-dispensing, flag-waving and military parade-reviewing variety.

We want a genuine democratic state -- especially since this new state will find itself alongside the nation of Israel, which we must admit, is an authentic and truly democratic country. Because of this, I beg of you to urge all Palestinians to start today preparing plans, projects, and agendas for this would-be democracy.

Let us support, from this day, laws for free elections, a system of education and public health, a body of courts, and all the vital accoutrements of a modern, democratic nation. Let us plan for a state where any Palestinian who speaks out against the policies of a foreign minister will not be labelled as a CIA agent or a Zionist, and put in jail for his opposition.

Let us plan for a state in which the ordinary Palestinian citizen will be protected and given full civil equality as his right; a state in which the Palestinian way of life is a proud and worthy thing; and a state which will be proud to ally with other free, stable and democratic nations, rather than with reactionary, militaristic, and totalitarian regimes.

Let us not hold any illusions about Israel's establishment, that the powerful state was established only on the claim that God had promised them this land. Since the dawn of time, politics have been based on the premises that "might is right." If you honestly believe that you are capable of liberating Palestine from the Israelis, you must immediately tell us. If you are not able to do this, then you should be ready today to sit down at the negotiation table. Time is not on our side. Israel is digging its feet into the occupied areas, and in its greed is constantly ready to take advantage of Arab impotence.

You can take yourselves as examples. You have no place in Sinai, in Jordan, in Syria, or in Lebanon. Your present situation is not due, however, to Israel alone, but largely because of the policies of the other Arab regimes. No one envies you your position -- you are pressured by those Arab powers, and you are often at their "mercy."

And in the West Bank and Gaza, the protest movement is constantly discouraged by the reaction of the Arab states. Arab land is confiscated, persons are deported; mayors are fired; territories are annexed -- and we watch the various Arab foreign ministers rush to the UN, calling for an urgent meeting, and then weeping when the American ambassador vetoes their draft resolution. This scenario is repeated over and over, but it has never once helped us. On the contrary, it damages Palestinian morale. The West Bank and Gaza is lost dunam by dunam, day by day, and the Israel iron grip tightens daily. And we are given national songs, fiery speeches, and condemnatory statements which the Israelis throw into the wastebasket.

It is instead the Palestinian political movement in the occupied areas which is divided, which falls into the traps set by the Israeli administration. And other Arab divisions and rivalries, unfortunately, express themselves in the problems of the West Bank and Gaza -- he who does not agree with Iraq's fight against Iran is branded as a traitor to other Arab causes. He who accuses the communists of using Palestinian miseries to achieve their own political ends is seen as some sort of Israeli spy. And whoever criticizes those "big mouths" who insist on babbling about everything to hide the fact they know nothing is reported as a "dangerous" anti-PLO advocate. And then he who points a finger at a mayor who at first took 20,000 Jordanian dinars then $150,000, and 40,000 Jordanian dinars from his municipality's account in Amman, is denounced in the streets as a betrayer of his people.

And then there is the sort who goes off to Amman or Beirut, and has lunch with some PLO official -- maybe a minor functionary -- and returns home as some kind of spokesman for the PLO. He then likes to threaten his neighbors not to say this or not to do that. The question of representing the PLO is a weighty and sensitive one. It has turned into, I regret to say, a personal representation in the occupied areas. Let me point out that our people look to the PLO as a symbol of national aspiration. You must stop those persons in the West Bank who tell the foreign media, "the PLO is our only representative," and then turn to us demanding blind obedience, blind loyalty, and even blinder eyes.

It seems to many of us that every one of those West Bank personalities who have the PLO banner insists on speaking and behaving as if he is the PLO itself.

Those individuals who speak too much do not know the time to be silent; and when they remain silent, they do not know it is time to speak out.

The struggle with Israel is not merely a matter of rousing speeches, interviews with foreign newsmen, or attending cocktail parties at foreign consulates. Nor is the struggle against Israel simply calling for a general strike because the shop of a mayor has been shut. The struggle with the Israeli occupation should always address itself to one question: What are we planning to accomplish? What will we win and what will we lose? Keeping our children away from the schools for long weeks will not achieve anything -- except to produce uneducated, menial labourers for the Israeli market. To exhaust people by demanding that they demonstrate and strike will only hasten the day when those people are bored and unresponsive. There is an art to employing the anger and energy of the Palestinian people and the political movement ought to learn it.

The establishment of the Palestinian-Jordanian joint committee has created divided loyalties, as well as giving rise to an idea of the PLO as a charitable organization. It has also led to a feeling of bitterness among people in the occupied areas that we are money-receivers and paid for what we are doing here. We angrily reject such an idea -- we act on behalf of ourselves, not on behalf of other nations. We are defending our own land the future of our children and our grandchildren.

No one questions that the PLO has established world-wide support for the Palestinian cause, and we appreciate that Palestinian rights have become an issue on several international fronts, but this diplomatic public relations campaign needs some review. We hear certain explicit questions put to us by the Europeans, Americans and other powers, yet we avoid giving the world a clear answer.

Our representative and spokesmen must reply honestly and directly to their questions (and even demands) about living alongside Israel in peace, renouncing violence, mutual recognition on both sides, let us hope, and a willingness to deal with the issues facing us both. We Arabs have a well-known gift for playing with words, especially in politics. Where have the non-Arabs gained that same talent -- especially when talking of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has become an international, non-Arab problem?

But the crucial point which we must accept is that we should not build all our hopes on the statements of support from outsiders -- or their condemnations of Israel. These statements will never move the Israelis one centimetre; they will never halt Israel's expansionist move. Let us stop blaming others, and let us stop looking to others to help the Palestinians while we are divided among ourselves. I believe that the American administration is willing to exercise pressure on Israel, but only when we come forward with a reasonable and realistic political initiative. Those of us with other ties must realize that the Soviet Union's "support" of the Palestinians will always be limited to Soviet global commitments and ambitions, as well as its hopes for detente.

I fully recognize the amount of courage needed to come forward with a peaceful Palestinian gesture, as I fully realize the risks involved. But courageous calculations are necessary when one's personal fate is concerned. When it comes to the fate of a people, when it concerns the suffering of the same people, and when it has to do with the political realities of the Middle East, the future of the Palestinian people and this land ought to be handled very, very courageously, whatever the risk. History reserves its longest pages for such courage.

## OAU MEETING POSTPONED OVER SAHARA ISSUE

NC111445 Paris AFP in English 1437 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Addis Ababa, 11 May (AFP) -- A split in the Organization of African Unity over the admission to the OAU of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) loomed larger here today as a meeting of the charter review committee broke up in disarray.

The committee bureau -- chaired by Cameroon and backed up by Ivory Coast, Morocco, Malawi and Somalia -- said it had decided to postpone the gathering indefinitely because of "irregularities" in convening it in the first place. Eight other nations supported that decision, bringing the total in favour of postponement to 13. However, another 14 delegations, including a representative of the SADR (Western Sahara), voted in favour of going ahead with the meeting.

The bureau of the committee said in a press communique that it was also decided to adjourn the opening "because of the circumstances now prevailing in the organization." That statement appeared to refer to the admission of SADR, proclaimed by the Polisario.

Yesterday, the committee meeting failed to formally open when Cameroon refused to take the chair and the committee's vice-chairmen from Sierra Leone, Morocco and Malawi refused to preside in the presence of a SADR delegate. Both Cameroon and Sierra Leone back Morocco, which is fighting the Polisario guerrilla movement for control of the disputed Western Sahara.

## UN COUNCIL ON NAMIBIA MEETING CONTINUES

### Nonaligned Official's Address

EA112010 Dar es Salaam in English to East Central and Southern Africa 1600 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Arusha -- The Nonaligned Movement has urged the UN Security Council to adopt binding sanctions against the apartheid regime of South Africa until it yields to negotiate a solution to the problem of Namibia.

The call was voiced today by a representative of the chairman of the nonaligned countries at the United Nations, who is also deputy foreign minister [title as received] of Cuba, Ndugu Oscar Oramas, when addressing a plenary session of the UN council for Namibia in Arusha. Ndugu Oscar Oramas said that the world was faced with a crucial situation in the tough fight for the liberation of Namibia. He called for practical implementation of all relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council relating to Namibia.

The chairman of the UN special committee on decolonization, Ambassador Frank Owen Abdullah of Trinidad and Tobago, urged the international community to strive more vigorously than before to ensure the minority regime is deprived of all the means enabling it to continue its acts of defiance with impunity.

Meanwhile, Tanzania's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations, Ndugu (Siera), was by elected the chairman of the committee following his nomination by the council president, Paul Lusaka.

Nujoma Interview, Comments

EA111720 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 10 May 82

[SWAPO program]

[Text] Dar es Salaam -- The president of the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO of Namibia, Comrade Sam Nujoma, yesterday accused the Western so-called contact group and the U.S. self-imposed negotiator, Chester Crocker, of supporting racist South Africa. Comrade Sam Nujoma said the Western countries who form the gang of five, the United States, Britain, France, West Germany and Canada, were trying to ensure that the racist South African-(?backed) Turnhalle Alliance was represented in the Central Namibian Constituent Assembly.

In an interview published in the Tanzanian SUNDAY NEWS, the SWAPO president accused the so-called contact group of trying to create the impression that they were the lib erators of Namibia. This time Chester Crocker was pretending to be a liberator of the Namibian people, whereas in actual fact he and his colleagues give all their support to the racist Pretoria regime. SWAPO, (?which has) for the past 16 years been fighting a liberation war against racist South Africa, which was a former German colony illegally and in violation of the UN's resolutions and decisions. [sentence as heard]

Comrade Nujoma who is in Tanzania for the UN council for Namibia, which started today, said SWAPO rejected the latest proposals of the gang of five hinged on a complex polling system (?combining) direct balloting for individual candidates with proportional representation. He said that proposals of this nature were deliberatly calculated in favor of racist South African puppets.

The proposed voting system aims at giving the puppets of Turnhalle who are on the payroll of the racist Pretoria regime an opportunity to be represented in the constituent assembly, even though they are not voted in by anybody, the SWAPO president pointed out. He added by saying that Namibians did not want a constitution modeled on that of West Germany because German colonialists massacred Namibians.

Comrade President Sam Nujoma emphasized that Namibia is not a colony of any member of the so-called contact group and that the Western involvement in the Namibian problem was accepted by SWAPO because SWAPO believed the Western gang of five, being chief trading partners of racist South Africa, could exert pressure on the apartheid regime.

## ALGERIA

### ABDELGHANI, PAPANDREOU HOLD 'POLITICAL TALKS'

LD111336 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 11 May 82

[Excerpts] Political talks were held this morning at the government palace between Prime Minister Mohamed ben Ahmed Abdelghani, member of the FLN Political Bureau, and Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, who is now on an official visit to Algeria at the invitation of President Chadli Bendjedid, secretary general of the party.

The talks touched upon ways and means to strengthen and consolidate relations of cooperation in trade, agriculture, industry, housing, fisheries, maritime transport and vocational training. The talks also involved the international situation and the Mediterranean basin.

### PRESIDENT RECEIVES NIGER FOREIGN MINISTER

LD102216 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] Chadli Bendjedid, FLN secretary general and president of the republic, this afternoon received at the presidential palace Niger Foreign Minister Daouda Diallo who delivered a message from Niger President Seyni Kountche. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Ahmed Talib Ibrahimi.

Daouda Diallo arrived in Algeria this morning and was welcomed by Light Industry Minister Said Ait-Messaoudene. During his stay in Algeria, he will convey the condolences of the Niger people and government at the death of the late Brother Mohamed Ben Yahia.

### IRANIAN DELEGATION CONVEYS CONDOLENCES

LD071832 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] According to the Central News Bureau and the Islamic Republic of Iran's Embassy in Algeria, Foreign Affairs Minister Velayati and the delegation accompanying him, now in Algeria, today paid their respects to and prayed for the martyrs of the incident in which an Algerian plane was downed by planes belonging to the Ba'thist Iraqi regime. They also signed the special memorial book in the Algerian people's palace. They were accompanied by a special representative of the president.

After this ceremony, Velayati and the president's representative were received by Algerian President Chadli Benjedid. At this meeting, the speaker of the National Assembly of Algeria, the prime minister and members of the Political Bureau of the Algerian Liberation Front were present. Velayati conveyed the deepest sorrow of the president, the government and the nation of Iran to the president of Algeria and praised the character of martyred Ben Yahia.

In reply, the Algerian president thanked the government and the nation of Iran for their sympathy and friendly attitude in holding a memorial ceremony for the Algerian martyrs in Tehran and sending a high-ranking delegation to take part in the martyrs' in Algeria. Finally, the Algerian president emphasized the need to strengthen relations between the two fraternal and friendly nations and asked the Iranian delegation to convey his warmest greetings to the imam of the nation, the president, the government and the nation of Iran.

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER RECEIVES SOVIET AMBASSADOR

LD102232 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] Rabih Bitat, member of the FLN Political Bureau and speaker of the People's National Assembly, today received at his assembly office Vasiliy Rykov, USSR ambassador to Algeria.

During the courtesy visit, discussions covered cooperation between the two countries, particularly between the parliaments, and matters of common interest.

## LIBYA

JANA CITES 'SECRET' MUBARAK-FAHD MEETING

LD120854 Tripoli JANA in English 0800 GMT 12 May 82

[Text] Beirut, 12 May (JANA) -- AM-MUBARIT Lebanese magazine revealed yesterday that a secret meeting took place between Egyptian President Mubarak and Saudi Crown Prince Fahd in Muscat during Mubarak's latest visit to the city.

The magazine said brief talks were held between Mubarak and Fahd, attended by King Qabus, and stressed it is not their first meeting as both met just before the assassination of traitor As-Sadat.

Following As-Sadat's execution, both met last March to conclude a strategic agreement between Egypt and Saudi rulers to be implemented after the alleged Zionist withdrawal from Sinai.

The strategic plan stipulates that Saudi Arabia be a platform for any political moves in the region in an attempt to spread Saudi family's power over developments in the region. This will also put pressure on pro-Saudi Arab regimes to resume relations with Egypt, gain approval of the capitulatory Fahd plan which would be achieved through a Fes or Riyadh summit and economic pressure, on some Arab countries.

Saudi Arabia in turn would put pressure on the PLO to ease its opposition to a resumption of relations with Egypt.

The U.S. administration has played a role in this new move adopted by Saudi family which includes the formation of an axis, involving Jordan, Morocco, Somalia, Sudan, Oman, Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

This axis would confront Steadfastness and Confrontation Front countries.

SOVIET DEPUTY AGRICULTURE MINISTER ARRIVES

LD112034 Tripoli JANA in English 1748 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Tripoli, 11 May (JANA) -- The Soviet deputy agriculture minister and joint head of the Libyan Arab-Soviet joint agricultural committee and his accompanying delegation arrived here today.

The guest informed JANA's correspondent that his visit is within framework of consolidating and developing bilateral cooperation and strengthening cooperation between the two peoples in various fields, particularly in agriculture.

SUDAN

PRESIDENTS NUMAYRI, MUBARAK DISCUSS RELATIONS

PM111251 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 7 May 82 pp 1, 4

['Adil Rida interview with President Ja'far Numayri and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on 6 May in Khartoum]

[Excerpts] Question to President Husni Mubarak: Does the fact that Khartoum is the first capital you visited since the liberation of the Sinai reflect any sentiments you might want to express?

President Mubarak: This visit signifies a number of things. I made a point of making Sudan the first country I would visit after the liberation of the Sinai to show Sudan has been and, God willing, always will be the closest state to Egypt in all stages of its struggle. The two peoples are twins and their interests and aims are identical. My visit to Sudan is exactly the same as President Numayri's visits to Egypt. They do not require justification, formalities or introductions. On such visits, one actually moves from one part to another in the same homeland. I have come to Sudan to express to the fraternal Sudanese people and their leader, President Numayri, our loyalty and gratitude for supporting Egypt under all circumstances. Egyptian-Sudanese relations are special and transcend all other relations among states.

President Numayri visited us in Cairo. We met in Cairo and in Aswan. My visit to Sudan after the liberation of the Sinai is, as always, within the framework of consultations between brothers, and consultation and coordination between brothers and friends. In the past, we held important consultations and followed up the discussions on the peace agreement. Now that we have completed the liberation of the Sinai, the new phase necessitates coordination and consultation. This visit is for coordination between brothers. Sudan is a fraternal country and His Excellency President Numayri is more than a brother to me. My discussions with President Numayri are always thorough and free from sensitivities because our vision and objectives are the same.

Question to President Mubarak: What issues will you discuss with President Numayri?

President Husni Mubarak: The talks will cover Arab, African and international affairs and bilateral relations which receive top priority over all else. We consider Sudan an essential ally of Egypt in all its Arab stands. We also coordinate our positions on African affairs. We consider Sudan's security to be a part of Egypt's security and vice versa. Each of the two countries is considered a strategic depth for the other and any encroachment on Sudan's security is an encroachment on Egypt's security.

Question to President Mubarak: Mr President, how do you view President Numayri's mediation for the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations?

President Mubarak: Brother President Numayri is not playing a mediating role as such, but he is always the first to work for clearing the Arab atmosphere. This has been his attitude toward all Arab differences. Under his leadership, Sudan always has been an element of reconciliation.

Question to President Mubarak: What about coordination between the two countries with a view to stopping the bloody Iraqi-Iranian war?

President Mubarak: We consider the continuous bloodshed resulting from the Iraqi-Iranian war harmful to the interests of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and see it as a threat to the security and stability of the Arab Gulf states with which we have strategic ties that rate higher than political considerations. This is why we are continuously working for an end to the fighting as soon as possible. In view of this, we are supplying fraternal Iraq with necessary ammunition and equipment so it will be in a military position to settle the conflict peacefully with Iran.

Question to President Mubarak: A few days ago President Numayri said the liberation of the Sinai meant the liberation of 90 percent of the occupied Arab territories, and it opens the way for a calm and objective dialogue on the restoration of Egyptian-Arab relations, the completion of the peace process and the liberation of the rest of the occupied Arab territories. What is your opinion?

President Mubarak: I fully support everything my brother, His Excellency President Numayri, has said. And I consider it to have been said by Egypt as well. I do not in any way disagree with it. I am always proud of President Numayri's views, wise attitudes and vast experience. We meet whenever developments call for coordination between Egypt and Sudan. We welcome any efforts by His Excellency President Numayri to clear the Arab atmosphere of tension and differences. We have known him on all occasions to play a positive and active role and to work for stronger Arab solidarity in the right sense of the word, on the basis of unity of action, coordinated and continuous movement, and agreement on general strategic objectives while at the same time giving each Arab state the ability to move with flexibility where ways and methods are concerned.

Question to President Numayri: How do you do view Egyptian-Sudanese relations?

President Numayri: They are relations that do not need propaganda, words and slogans. They are genuine, continuous and eternal. They stem from the will of both countries' masses. We as presidents only carry out, serve, strengthen and enhance this will.

Question to President Numayri: What about Egyptian-Sudanese coordination aimed at ending the Iraqi-Iranian war?

President Numayri: The ruinous Iraqi-Iranian war raging between two Islamic countries necessitates real intervention on our part to stop the bloodshed, and makes it incumbent on all Muslims to work for an end to this war. The war losses will not only be losses for Iraq and Iran, but also losses for all the Muslim nations.

Question to President Numayri: Can we consider your meeting with President Mubarak a first step toward expected Arab solidarity?

President Numayri: I believe it is wrong to call it a first step, because Egypt and Sudan always have worked and always will work for Arab solidarity. My current meeting with Brother President Mubarak can be considered a move in support of Arab solidarity and a part of our attempts to bridge the views of the Arab states and Egypt, as well as a part of the continuous efforts to achieve this. The efforts made in the Arab arena have so far branched in various directions. I am referring here to the efforts to resolve the problems of the Arab world, whether by war as in October 1973, or by peace and dialogue as in the case of the liberation of the Sinai. Within this context, we meet and consult on steps we are taking and proceeding with. We cannot, however, say this is a first step, because it was preceded by other steps and will be followed by other steps toward this objective. This is a natural attitude that should prevail in the Arab world.

NUMAYRI VIEWS DOMESTIC, ARAB SITUATIONS

GF110737 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 8 May 82 pp 1, 9

[Interview granted by President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to AL-MADINAH correspondent at Friendship Hall in Khartoum -- no date given]

[Excerpts] AL-MADINAH: Your Excellency the President, newspapers and foreign information media report disturbing news about the situation in your country, but during our short stay in Khartoum and through the tours of the capital, we have noted everything is going well. What is the truth about the political, economic and security situation in Sudan?

President Numayri: First of all, thank you very much for this question which aims at understanding the situation in Sudan. Sudan, like other countries, has enemies and its enemies are fierce and possess a very strong weapon -- petroleum. Specifically, I mean Libya, which is the No 1 enemy. Libya uses all its capabilities and wealth to distort the truth regarding Sudan. For that purpose, it uses all its information media, newspapers, magazines, broadcasting stations and television, and Al-Qadhdhafi pays for some media abroad to distort the facts and create disturbances by means of incorrect reports about Sudan. Regrettably, we have learned that some of our Arab brothers believe the reports fabricated by Libya against us. Libya is violating the norms of the information profession and for that reason newsmen must fight Al-Qadhdhafi and his information media and they should not trust them. With regard to the political and security situation here in Sudan, I don't think there is anything better than what you have seen. We say we are the best people in Africa and better than many Arab countries with regard to security and stability. Regarding the economic situation, our country is a developing country with its own economic problems. This is not unusual as many countries are in such a situation. We have dealt with our problems with real work and 1 and 1/2 years ago we set up a program that included lifting subsidies on some food supplies. Praise be the Lord, I can say we are continuing with the industrial, agricultural and cultural development and there are unpublicized subsidies, like medical subsidies. Treatment and education are free in our country. Is there anything better than that? Praised be the Lord, we have a great human wealth that we offer to our African and Arab brothers to help them.

AL-MADINAH: Your Excellency the President, how do you view the Arab situation after the enemy's withdrawal from the Sinai? Does Sudan intend to exert any effort to bring Egypt back to the Arab fold?

President Numayri: I think there will be tranquillity and peace after the Sinai handover. This tranquillity may help the Arabs gather around one table to discuss policies and strategies that will enable them to resolve all problems and complications in the Arab world without provocations and useless slogans. Since the beginning of the Palestinian problem, there have been fronts of refusal and fronts of steadfastness that have done nothing except challenge and fight from behind their doors. That means these fronts are not at all serious about the military effort. On the contrary, they invest in the Palestinian issue to benefit from it financially or politically. Billions of pounds were paid to them and they did nothing. Regrettably, none of the confrontation countries allow the Palestinians to carry out patriotic operations from their territories. Hence, they don't want to do anything and they don't want the Palestinians to do anything. Since the withdrawal from the Sinai has taken place, I think that it is necessary to hold a summit, to which Egypt must be invited and given the opportunity to explain to us all its personal experience from the beginning of the peace process until now.

Thanks to God, Egypt has nothing against the Arabs and harbors no feelings of hatred. On the contrary, Egypt wants to expand its experience for further help, but without war. Sudan has been working to reorganize the Arab ranks since As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem. Sudan is still working for that and will never abandon its duty. I have talked on many occasions with the brothers. I said we have to take a practical step and invite Egypt to describe its experiences and invite the Palestinians to describe their experiences in terms of resolving the problem. There is still the Palestinian right and Jerusalem. Before we move, we have to give Israel's prime minister the opportunity to speak and say that he will not withdraw. I remember that he said: "I will not do it." And he will not do it. But, perhaps with a country like Egypt, which understands how to deal with Israel, the situation might be in our favor, especially the psychological barrier has vanished, as they say.

AL-MADINAH: After the Polisario attended the Addis Ababa conference last February, do you see any possibility of holding the forthcoming African summit in Tripoli, Your Excellency?

President Numayri: First of all, before I answer this question, I condemn OAU Secretary Edem Kokjo for his personal behavior and disregard of African opinion in making such a decision, when a fully authorized committee had been formed to take measures to resolve the problem. I personally think no summit will be held in Tripoli and, if it is held, it will be very weak and no decisions will be made because those attending will be, as usual, without authority to make decisions. The conference, if held, will be weak. And weak or strong, I will not attend it at all.

AL-MADINAH: Your Excellency, you recently visited southern Sudan. How did you find the situation there?

President Numayri: There are many politicians who do not understand the situation in Sudan. This revolution broke out with the purpose of changing the situation and creating a decentralized system of rule in the south. The solution we have found is to decentralize the rule in Sudan and we have achieved great success in this regard. We succeeded in dividing the north into five regions. It was the opinion of the majority to divide the south into smaller regions. But at present, I do not have the capability to establish decentralization in the south and the north.

## BRIEFS

EDUCATION MINISTER DIES -- Dr an-NADHIR Daf'allah, minister of education and guidance, died at 1600 today from a sudden illness. The funeral will take place tomorrow morning. [Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 11 May 82 EA]

## CHAD

### COUNCIL OF STATE INSTALLED; KAMOUGUE COMMENTS

AB111258 Paris AFP in French 1033 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Ndjamena, 11 May (AFP) -- The Chadian Council of State, created last Saturday under the terms of the "Ndjamena declaration," was officially installed on Monday by Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT].

"The creation of the Council of State opens an era with a new style," President Goukouni stressed.

Col Kamougue Wadal Abdel Kader, council chairman, said the Council of State is an "organ of capital importance" in the process of peace that will assume the "new mission" of enlightening the government's action by guiding and assisting it in restoring a "normal" administrative, economic and social life.

Far from being an "echo chamber," the Council of State is "truly active, positive and constructive," Colonel Kamougue said, adding that the competence of the organ of reflection, conception and orientation should be "respected in a spirit of tolerance and mutual dialogue." Consensus and cordiality will be the guidelines of the new political organ," he added.

Colonel Kamougue, GUNT vice president, who has admitted the difficulty of establishing new political organs, "solemnly appealed" to the people of Chad, asking them to "make peace in their hearts" to "make possible" the realization of "national peace."

According to him, the originality of the "Ndjamena declaration" lies in the fact that it is "the fruit of compromise" among the different factions to respond to the wishes of the people of Chad who are "worn out by the contradictions of their leaders."

Severely critizing the last two governments in Chad, Mr Kamougue declared: "Two incurable diseases plagued the two governments: the absence of unity and inertia". A "faulty appreciation" of the political situation, said the Council of State chairman led the leaders of the factions into a sterile fight for leadership. According to Colonel Kamougue, the army was not excluded. "We witnessed an appalling scene of improvisation reflecting...the fight of the factions at the level of government," he stressed.

On the other hand, concerning the forthcoming cabinet reshuffle, Colonel Kamogue explained that the next prime minister of Chad will be an "all-round man" who will have to translate into action the country's political decisions. This prime minister, Kamougue, added, will "rarely act alone" and "nothing will be done efficiently" without the Council of State and the presidency of the republic.

Goukouni Queddei observed that it was really interference and ambitions of all kinds that led Chad into the present situation. The present government is "technically fit."

## GABON

### CCP DELEGATION ARRIVES IN LIBREVILLE 11 MAY

AB112115 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] An important CCP delegation has been in Libreville since this morning for a week's visit to Gabon.

The delegation, led by Qiao Shi of the International Liaison Department of the CCP Central Committee, was welcomed on arrival by (?Noah Dikko), a ministerial delegate representing the minister of national orientation, special party organizations and the civil service.

The two delegations this afternoon met at the party house for a working session attended by Comrades Leon Auge and Zacharie Myboto, respectively, the head of the [word indistinct] headquarters and the administrative secretary of the party. The main subject of this working session was to harmonize the common policies of the Gabonese Democratic Party and the CCP within the framework of cooperation between Libreville and Beijing.

Our Chinese guests will be hosted at a dinner by Minister Leon Auge.

## ZAIRE

### MOBUTU APPOINTS NEW COMMISSIONERS, SECRETARIES

AB111328 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1137 GMT 11 May 82

[Excerpt] [No dateline given] Ordinance No 82-055 of 7 May 1982, appointing the members of the Executive Council:

The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, considering the Constitution, especially Articles 36, 42, 45 and 99, decrees:

Article 1: The functions of state commissioner for national defense, territorial security and veterans affairs are exercised by the founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic.

Article 2: Without prejudice to ordinance No 81-181 of 8 October 1981 appointing Citizen N'singa Udjuu Ongwakebi Untube as first state commissioner, the following persons are appointed as commissioners for the following departments:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 -- Territorial administration; deputy first state commissioner | Vunduawe te Pemako |
| 2 -- Foreign affairs and international cooperation | Yoka Mangono |
| 3 -- Justice | Mananga Dintoka Pholo |
| 4 -- Information, culture and arts | Kande Dzambulate |
| 5 -- Finance, budget and state investments | Namwisi ma Nkoy |
| 6 -- Agriculture, rural development and environment | Kamitatu Massamba |
| 7 -- Economy, industry and foreign trade | Pay Pay we Kasige |
| 8 -- Mines and energy | Umba Kyamitala |
| 9 -- Public works and territorial development | Makolo Jibikilayi |
| 10 -- Transport and communication | Inonga Lokongo Lome |
| 11 -- Land affairs | Sukadi Bulayik |
| 12 -- University and higher education | Sampasa Kaweta Milombe |
| 13 -- Primary and secondary education | Ndolelasi Kondz |
| 14 -- Scientific research | Mabika Kalanda |
| 15 -- Public health, social affairs and sports | Mozagba Ngbuka |
| 16 -- Public service, labor and social security | Kilolo Musampa |
| 17 -- Posts and telecommunications | Maata Nkumu wa Bowango |
| 18 -- General commissioner for planning | Bokana W'ondangela |

Article 3: All former provisions which are contrary to this ordinance are repealed.

Article 4: This ordinance comes into force on the date it is signed.

Issued in Kinshasa on 7 May 1982.

[Signed] Gen Mobutu Sese Seko Kuko Ngbendu wa za Banga

Ordinance No 82-056 of 7 May 1982, appointing the secretaries of state of the departments:

The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, considering the Constitution and particularly Articles 36, 42 and 45; considering Ordinance-Law No 72-023 of 4 July 1973 relating to the status of officials of the public services as modified to date and considering Ordinance No 78-156 of 18 April 1978 which completes and modifies Ordinance No 73-216 of 25 July 1973 relating to the organization and the organic framework of the public services, including the national education service, the administrative services of the legislative council and the judicial services, decrees:

Article 1: The following have been appointed secretaries of state:

| | |
|---|---|
| 1 -- National and war veterans | Vice Adm Lomponda wa Botende for national defense<br>Lt Gen Dikuta Ebilansang Kambing for war veterans |
| 2 -- Territorial administration | Ilumba Nwasa wa Lupupu |
| 3 -- Foreign affairs and international cooperation | Pendje Demodetdo for foreign affairs<br>Lenguema Dulia Yubasa Makanga for international cooperation |
| 4 -- Information, culture and arts | Elongo Pene Ongala |
| 5 -- Finance, budget and state investments | Djamboleka Loma Okitongana for finance<br>Mbonbo Engondo for budget and state investments |
| 6 -- Agriculture, rural development and environment | Mwamba Ndumba for agriculture<br>Mukala wa Mukala for rural development and environment |
| 7 -- Economy, industry and foreign trade | Ilunga Ilukamba |
| 8 -- Mines and energy | Kimasi Matuiku Basaula |
| 9 -- Public works and territorial development | Kibangula Kia Makonga |
| 10 -- Transport and communications | Lundu Bilengu |
| 11 -- Land affairs | Mbamba Ganga |
| 12 -- Higher and university education | Samba Kaputo |
| 13 -- Primary and secondary education | Nzali Lopembe for primary education<br>Masegabio Nzandu for secondary education |
| 14 -- Public service, labor and social security | Kisolokele Wamba |
| 15 -- General commission for planning | Bieme Ngalisame Mokelo |

Article 2 -- All former provisions which are contrary to this ordinance -- effective on the date it is signed -- are replaced.

ORDINANCE RESTRUCTURES NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL

AB101321 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 8 May 82

[Presidential ordinance issued in Kinshasa on 7 May restructuring the National Security Council -- article numbers as heard]

[Text] The president and MPR founding chairman, considering the Constitution, especially Articles 41 and 45, and reconsidering the ordinance on the creation of the National Security Council [CNS], orders:

Article 1: The CNS General Secretariat has been dissolved. A documentation and Archives Directorate of the CNS has been created. It is to safeguard the documents put at the disposition of and concerning the security of the state.

Article 2: The dispositions of Article 3 of Ordinance No 80/077 of 21 April 1980 modifying the ordinance of 6 March 1979 establishing the CNS have been modified:

Article 3: The members of the CNS are the first state commissioner, the head of state's special adviser on security matters, the state commissioner for foreign affairs and international cooperation, the state commissioner for territorial administration, the state commissioner for national defense, the state commissioner for justice, the chief of general staff of the Zairian Armed Forces, the general administrator of the National Center for Research and Investigations, the national administrator of the National Intelligence Service, the chief of staff of the national gendarmery. A security committee has been established within the CNS. Allowed to participate in the meetings of the security committee are: the general administrator of the CNRI or his assistant, the general administrator of the SNI or his assitant, the director of military intelligence or his assistant and all other persons -- CNS members or not -- invited by the president of the meeting of the security committee.

Article 3: The disposition of Article 4 of Ordinance No 80/77 of 21 April 1980 modifying the ordinance of 6 March 1977 on the creation of the CNS are modified:

Article 4: A secretariat operates within the CNS. It is headed by one of the two general administrators. Its duty is to prepare the agenda of the meetings of the CNS and to prepare to minutes of such meetings according to the instructions of the MPR founding chairman and president of the republic. In the case of the absence or incapacitation of the MPR founding chairman and president of the republic, the CNS member with the highest grade in the national hierachy shall preside over the meeting.

Article 4: The dispositions of Article 9 of Ordinance 80/77 dated 21 April 1980 modifying Ordinance No 119/047 of 6 March 1979 on the creation of the CNS are modified:

Article 9: The CNS shall meet at least once a month. The security committee shall meet at least twice a month, and as many times as possible according to the circumstances. In this last case, it shall meet either at the request of the MPR founding chairman or at the urgent request of one of its members. The chairman of the meeting of the security committee is assumed in a rotative manner by the members of the committee.

Article 5: All former dispositions contrary to the present ordinance, which comes into force today, the date of its signature, are abrogated.

Signed in Kinshasa on 7 May, 1982, by Gen Mobutu Sese Seko Kuku Ngbendu wa za Banga

## GAMBIA

### JAWARA SWORN IN AFTER REELECTION VICTORY

AB112025 Paris AFP in English 1902 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Banjul, May 11 (AFP) -- President Dawda Jawara was sworn in today for another term in office following his crushing victory in elections on May 4 and 5. A large crowd turned out for the ceremony at MacCarthy Palace, in central Banjul. In the past, the swearing in took place in parliament.

In his inaugural speech, Sir Dawda reiterated that his victory was a rebuke for the failed leftwing coup here last July. He also vowed to fully support the Federation of Senegambia, and reviewed Senegambian forces -- a combination of the Gambian field force and police and Senegalese units. The federation, which came into effect earlier this year, was set up after Senegal helped put down the attempted coup.

Sir Dawda also promised that he and his government -- which may be announced later today -- would assure Gambia's well-being, development and defence.

About foreign affairs, he said that Gambia would continue its policy of non-alignment and maintain support for the South-West Africa People's Organisation in its struggle for the liberation of Namibia. He reaffirmed his faith in the Organization of African Unity, the Commonwealth the United Nations and the Islamic conference. In the election, Sir Sawda beat opposition National Convention Party leader Sherif Mustapha Dibba, in jail for his alleged involvement in the coup.

## GHANA

### RAWLINGS SAYS POOR WORKERS TO BE 'WEEDED OUT'

AB102135 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] The chairman of the PNDC [Provisional National Defense Council], Flight Lieutenant Rawlings, has warned that any worker who failed to work hard to justify his earning would be weeded out to make room for devoted and hardworking ones. This is because the country has for a long time wasted a lot of money on redundant labor. Flight Lieutenant Rawlings gave the warning when he paid a surprise visit to the Kotoka International Airport today.

At the Ghana Airways aircraft workshop, he charged the chief engineer to take proper care of the machines and tools. He noted that some of the machines and tools had been abandoned to rust in the rain and said these things belong to the people and must be properly maintained. It costs the nation a lot in foreign exchange to maintain the machines now going rusty through sheer negligence and irresponsibility of some of the workers. The chairman asked the engineers to use their initiative to solve some of the problems of spare parts by suitably replacing the wornout parts instead of relying on government to import all the parts. This, he said, would save the state much in foreign exchange.

Flight Lieutenant Rawlings noted that Ghana Airways Corporation is overstaffed and said the extra labor force must be deployed in other state institutions to assist in relevant service. For example, broken-down wheelchairs and beds at the hospitals can be collected and repaired at the workshop since it is well-equipped for some other jobs.

The chairman pointed out that there is very little jobs for the engineers in the workshop. He called for interdepartmental assistance in the fields of expertise and material to avoid the situation where one state institution starves while the other wastes its resources.

When the chairman was shown a small machine allegedly imported for Ghana Airways by a foreign agent he remarked that some of these agents are in to exploit the nation and discourage self-initiatives. Every efforts must therefore be made to avoid them when it is possible.

DAMUAH HEADS RELIGIOUS DELEGATION TO USSR

AB101728 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] Ghana is being represented at a 5-day international religious conference opening in Moscow today. The two-man Ghana delegation is led by the Reverend Father Damuah, member of the Provisional National Defense Council. The other member is the general secretary of the Ghana Muslim representative council, Na Abubakari Salifu.

An official of the Soviet Embassy told a Ghana Broadcasting Corporation correspondent that the delegation is expected to deliver a major speech on behalf of Ghanaian Christians and Muslims and also against the imperialist aggression against Ghana. The official said that Reverend Father Damuah and Na Abubakari Salifu will participate in the working committees, namely disarmament, nuclear disarmament and world peace. The conference is being held under the auspices of the archbishop of Moscow and the chief imam of central Asia. It aims at assembling religious workers from all over the world to exchange views on the threat of nuclear disaster.

## GUINEA

COMMENTATOR EXTOLS SEKOU TOURE'S REELECTION

AB101733 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1245 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] The date 9 May 1982 has entered the history of the Democratic Party of Guinea [PDG] as an important day. In fact, this memorable date is the day on which the whole world was turned to an event -- an event that saw Comrade President Ahmed Sekou Toure, the supreme leader of the revolution, carried high in triumph by his people. Elections, yes, they took place and confirmed in an indestructable manner what has been set up since 14 May 1947, that is to say, Ahmed Sekou Toure remains and will remain the undisputed and undeniable leader of the people of Guinea.

On Sunday, 9 May 1982, all citizens from the four corners of the nation and the diplomatic representations went to the polls to express to the secretary general of the PDG their limitless gratitude for the efforts he has been making for the rehabilitation of the Guinean people in particular and African people in general. The man who stood with courage and in great temerity against the invader at the most difficult and dark moment of colonization is the one who must be at the head of his people. Must we contest someone who is considered as the most humble by his people whom he saved from obscurantism, and who today is considered worthy and responsible? Grateful and determined to construct their own fortune, the people of Guinea know the man they need is really Ahmed Sekou Toure. Thus, yesterday, 9 May 1982, the fullness of the electoral operations and the popular demonstrations that followed are testimony to the fact that Ahmed Sekou Toure will remain in power in the People's Republic of Guinea for another 7-year term.

The kind invitation to the international press of all ideologies by the National Political Bureau is also another tangible proof that the Guinean regime is really a popular one -- a regime that is necessary for the People's Republic of Guinea whose only leader can only be Ahmed Sekou Toure -- Ahmed Sekou Toure -- whose name is henceforth synonymous with the people of Guinea.

## NIGERIA

### DEFENSE MINISTER: TROOPS TO REMAIN IN LEBANON

AB071148 Lagos NAN in English 1135 GMT 7 May 82

[Text] Ilorin, 7 May (NAN) -- The defense minister, Alhaji Akanbi Oniyangi, yesterday in Ilorin said that there was no plan to withdraw the Nigerian peace-keeping force in Lebanon. "What we are doing there is a positive contribution to world peace," he said in answer to a reporter's question on arrival in Ilorin to begin a two-day tour of military institutions in the Kawara capital. Alhaji Oniyangi said, however, that one battalion out of the three battalions sent to Chad for peace-keeping operations had been recalled. The defense minister said that the decision had nothing to do with the current austerity measures by the Federal Government but was taken as "a matter of policy." Alhaji Oniyangi said that the recalled battalion was only sent there when the countries expected to contribute troops failed to "forward their quota."

At the Nigerian Army school of education, the minister ordered that eight contractors handling the building projects of the institution should see him in Lagos. The commandant of the school, Colonel Ezekiel Odewale, had complained about the abandonment of the projects which, according to him, were expected to have been completed since March last year. The minister said that their contracts would be revoked if they had no genuine reasons for delaying the project.

### SHAGARI, EKWUEME TAKE 12.5 PERCENT SALARY CUT

AB102136 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] President Shehu Shagari and his vice [president], Dr Alex Ekwueme, have agreed to forego 12.5 percent of their annual salaries as their contribution to efforts to stabilize the economy. Also affected are political office holders, such as ministers, special advisers and special assistants. A letter sent to the Senate today by the president on the issue said the contribution, which took effect from 1 April this year, would continue until the economic position of the country improved. President Shagari stated in the letter that the executive arm of government would insure that overseas traveling allowances were cut down to the bearest minimum through a reduction in the frequency at overseas conferences and their duration. The president said there would be an across-the-board reduction of five percent in the normal ethical [as heard] rates which would also affect chairman and board members of statutory corporations. He promised to inform the senators of what measures the government intended to implement in the public service generally. President Shagari called on the legislators to take a lead in order to facilitate action in the public service sector.

#### Senate Reduces Salaries

AB112136 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The Senate today passed the motion for a 10 percent reduction in the salaries of federal public officers. The motion, which was sponsored by Senator Ayo Fasanmi, came in the wake of demands for sacrifice by public officers in view of the country's economic problems. The reduction, which is expected to take effect from the first of next month, is to be in force until the economy improves.

## MOZAMBIQUE

### SELF-DEFENSE FORCES ORGANIZED IN MANICA PROVINCE

EA101518 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1300 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] In Sussundenga District, Manica Province, actions to fight armed gangs in the pay of the racist South African regime, are now underway. The work entails the mobilization and organization of people into self-defense forces.

A few days ago, a meeting was held in Chimoio, also in Manica, stressing it is urgent to organize the population into people's militia and vigilante squads to resist activities of the armed gangs.

Meanwhile, members of the defense and security forces recently chaired a meeting with the workers of the provincial directorate of home trade in Manica to discuss worker participation in the vigilante squads.

## NAMIBIA

### MUDGE CALLS UN PLAN 'DIPLOMATIC NONSENSE'

MB111210 Johannesburg THE STAR in English 10 May 82 p 3

[By Alan Dunn, THE STAR's Africa news service]

[Excerpts] Windhoek -- Hopes for peace in Namibia in the near future diminished further today with demands by the Democratic Turnhalle Alliance [DTA] that the United Nations independence plan be abandoned.

The DTA has also rejected talks with "terrorist leaders" -- quashing a proposal by SWAPO and the frontline states for an international conference on Namibia's future.

DTA Chairman Mr Dirk Mudge called on South Africa and the Western five contact group to terminate the UN independence plan. "I think someone should have enough courage to stand up at the meeting and pass the death sentence on this UN-controlled election," he said.

"Nobody believes Resolution 435 will work. It is a lot of diplomatic nonsense and we sit here waiting for a dream to become a reality," Mr Mudge told a DTA rally.

### SECURITY FORCES CLASH WITH SWAPO 'TERRORISTS'

MB120753 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] Security forces were involved in a brief shooting incident with SWAPO terrorists at Outjiwo in South-West Africa. No losses were suffered by either side. The skirmish took place on the Forte farm, 8 km north of Outjiwo, which borders the town. Security forces are continuing mopping-up operatons in the vicinity of Outjiwo.

### U.S. STAND ON NAMIBIA ISSUE CRITICIZED

EA111306 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 10 May 82

[SWAPO program]

[Excerpts] We comment on Reaganism and the Namibian independence issue:

As it was expected, the racist South African [words indistinct] and the American political [words indistinct] are at this day publicly revealing their unseemly political colors on the independence issue of Namibia. The Reagan administration has all along been dubiously or otherwise conspiring with the racist regime of South Africa, with covert and overt means of trying by all means to delay the independence of Namibia by (?progressively) meaningless so-called solutions to the burning issue of the [words indistinct] (?national) territory of the Namibian people.

Since the election of racist Botha's political and military cousin, Ronald Wilson Reagan, to the White House in Washington nearly a year ago, proposals and negotiations on the liberation of our beloved motherland have become as endless as the killings and (?arrests) of the Namibian people by the South African racist Gestapo police.

On many occasions, the well-known assistant secretary of CIA's murdering squads in Africa, Chester Crocker, has been touring the frontline independent African states for what was supposed to be the seeking of a peaceful negotiated settlement to the independence problem of Namibia. Chester Crocker, as far as we know, is working overtime to wreck the whole peaceful procedures of the UN to grant independence to the Namibian people.

Last week the South-West African People's Organization, SWAPO of Namibia, called on the so-called contact group hoping that they were serious in their initiative and political demarches to convene a Geneva-type meeting between SWAPO, the movement fighting for the independence of the Namibian people, and the racist South African regime, an illegal occupation junta in Namibia under the UN auspices, to polish off once and for all the obstacles facing the gang of five's proposals on this question.

But, to our surprise, today the South African racists and the Western diplomatic mercenaries under the commandership of Chester Crocker are conspiring over the call made by SWAPO a few days ago. Can the Americans point out here as to what they really hope to solve if they conspire with the illegal and unwanted regime over the independence issue of Namibia, leaving out SWAPO, the sole and authentic representative of the Namibian people? SWAPO (can) not in the least way be taken for weakness by faithfully calling for a roundtable meeting with the racist Botha, Malan, Heunis and their Western masters. [sentence as heard]

The so-called contact group, with a Reaganism mentality, has and continues to take us for endless political rides, but cunningly trying to protect their vested interests in Namibia and thereby stagnating the independence issue of Namibia.

SWAPO views the gang of five's proposed one man-two votes system as totally unfair, undemocratic and unjust in that this system seeks to guarantee undeserved representation to insignificant tribal parties, which otherwise would find it extremely difficult to secure a single vote through a simple, fair and democratic electoral system. In this regard, it is of utmost importance to note that even some Western imperialist countries have (?got) mechanisms in their electoral procedures [words indistinct] aimed at preventing insignificant political parties from being represented. The Western-manufactured one man-two votes proposed system for Namibia is a complex and confusing system which cannot be easily explained to the Namibian people, with a low level of literacy and without any experience in voting and, besides, this system has not been used in the history of decolonization and therefore we see no reason at all why Namibia should be made a laboratory for such an electoral experimentation.

These on-and-off negotiations on the issue of Namibia have achieved nothing beneficial to the cause of the Namibian people, which is freedom, justice and national independence, but they have caused endless conspiracies between Chester Crocker and fascist Botha. What actually the so-called contact group wants with the two votes for one man is the guaranteeing of individual privileges to their colonial settler brothers and the multi-national companies in Namibia.

We call upon the international community to condemn in strongest (?terms) the meeting of South African racist oppressors and their commanders, currently taking place.

## SOUTH AFRICA

### PRIME MINISTER COMMENTS ON 'SPY' EXCHANGE

LD112222 Johannesburg International Service in English 2100 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] A South African soldier held prisoner in Angola (?and eight) Western intelligence agents held in the Soviet Union have been exchanged for a Russian KGB spy held by South Africa. The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, has announced that the exchange was the highlight of difficult and drawn-out negotiations over (?a series of 9 months). The South African soldier is (sapper Johan van der Mescht), who has been held by SWAPO since 1978. The Russian spy is (Maj Alexei Kozlov). (Sapper Van der Mescht) is already on his way home from Europe where the exchange took place. Prime Minister Botha said the exchange of Western intelligence agents for the South African-held Russian was clear proof of South African good will towards Western countries, (?and also) proof of the active contribution South Africa made to the battles (?of) the free world to survive against communism. Mr Botha said he hoped that those countries that had recently adopted a hostile attitude towards South Africa would [words indistinct] to what had happened.

### MINISTER DISCUSSES NUCLEAR POWER STATION

LD111152 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 11 May 82

[Text] The first South African nuclear power station, the Koeberg station near Cape Town, will begin generating power in the first half of next year. The South African minister of mineral and energy affairs, Mr F.W. de Klerk, says the delay in commissioning the station follows problems in acquiring nuclear fuel, but other sources have been found. He says it is to be expected that there would be minor delays in the commissioning of the first nuclear power station to be built on the African Continent. Mr de Klerk also says that South Africa is giving constant attention to the possibility of signing the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty. He says discussions regarding the matter are taking place but he is not prepared to provide more information. With regard to the synthetic production of fuel, Mr de Klerk says South Africa will have to decide soon on whether to build another plant on the lines of the existing oil from coal plants.

## ZAMBIA

### PRESIDENT KAUNDA RETURNS FROM ANGOLA TALKS

CA101128 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 9 May 82

[Text] President Kaunda flew back last night from Luanda where he briefed his Angolan counterpart Eduardo dos Santos on his recent talks with Prime Minister Pieter Botha held on the border between South Africa and Botswana.

Speaking at a joint press conference in Luanda yesterday, Dr Kaunda said his meeting with the South African leader reviewed a number of vital objectives which he could not immediately disclose. He however expressed hope that the meeting would bring about a solution to the long-standing problem of the southern African subregion. Addressing the same news conference, Dr dos Santos pledged his country's unflinching confidence in President Kaunda, a statement clearly in support of Dr Kaunda's initiative to meet Mr Botha in a bid to work out a lasting solution to the southern African conflict. President dos Santos said Angola appreciated the detailed information given to him by Dr Kaunda on the historical meeting which aroused tremendous world attention.

FOREIGN MINISTER RECEIVES GDR COUNTERPART

CA111048 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 10 May 82

[Text] The foreign minister, Prof Lameck Goma, today praised the German Democratic Republic for its efforts to promote peace and stability in the world. Professor Goma said the GDR was a household name in Zambia and other parts of the world because of its pragmatism in solving issues in the interests of mankind. Professor Goma was speaking when the GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer, who is on a 3-day visit to Zambia, called on him at his office. Professor Goma said the GDR was a unique example of what a people who had suffered the ravages of war [words indistinct] could do to subdue the efforts of such evils.

Hosts Dinner 10 May

CA111144 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 11 May 82

[Excerpt] Zambia has called on the two nuclear weapon superpowers, the Soviet Union and the United States, to take the lead in a nuclear disarmament process to rid mankind of the nightmare of worldwide nuclear devastation. The call was made yesterday evening by Foreign Minister Prof Lameck Goma at a dinner he hosted for visiting GDR Foreign Minister Mr Oskar Fischer at a hotel in Lusaka.